

THE SWAN



JULY, 1959 - No. 25

THE SWAN

The Magazine of Slough Grammar School

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Editorial

EARLY this year, it was reported in the national press that two of the Governors of a Grammar School left the platform in protest when the Headmaster, in the course of his Speech-day address, criticised those politicians who advocate the abolition of grammar schools and their incorporation into comprehensive schools. More recently, the report of the Chief Education Officer for Buckinghamshire on the Government White Paper on Education came under fierce criticism from local Borough Councillors because "it suggested no experiments at all," and because it lacked "attack." Similar expressions of dissatisfaction at the present system of education occur almost daily. Before considering the proposed reforms, let us examine the complaints of would-be reformers.

The first problem is that of the eleven-plus examination, the anxiety being not for those who pass, but for those who fail. The next is that of the "late developer" who, having failed the eleven-plus, is allegedly compelled to follow a course below the standard of which he is capable. Then comes that of the "good-average" secondary modern type who would, it is claimed, benefit from the stimulus which would be provided by top-class competition at a comprehensive school. And the final problem (which a member of the L.C.C. has declared to be of the greatest importance) is that of the snobbery connected with the present system. The comprehensive school should therefore, claims the Councillor, be welcomed above all as "an act of Social Justice." It will be noticed that no criticism is made of the grammar schools.

No one would deny that the problem of selection for a particular form of education is an acute one, and few would claim that the eleven-plus examination is an ideal solution. It is inevitable, however, that at some stage a selection must be made, and new methods are already being tried. The problem of the late developer is easily solved if the system of transfer from secondary modern to grammar schools is made more elastic. He can take his ordinary levels at his secondary modern school, and then transfer to a grammar school for the "A" level course—as indeed several members of our Sixth-form have done. If the secondary modern schools are improved, the "good-average" type has the stimulus of the chance of a grammar school sixth-form course to encourage him to work at his ordinary levels. The snobbery connected with the present system will not be solved by calling schools by different names. Instead of "our Willie goes to the Grammar School," we will have, "our Willie is in the Grammar stream."

The root of the problem therefore seems to be that the provision made for the education of those who fail the eleven-plus is inadequate. All the problems discussed above, with the exception of that of the eleven-plus examination, would be solved by improving the secondary modern schools, and even the sting of the eleven-plus would be lessened if transfer between secondary modern and grammar schools was made easier.

The first step in the reform of the secondary modern schools, in the view of those advocating the comprehensive system, would seem to be the abolition of the grammar schools. Britain can ill afford to lose the University graduates which the grammar schools have proved time and time again that they can help to provide. It therefore seems that to cut off this reliable source of potential graduates and to replace it by a system which is entirely unproved, is an extremely dangerous and costly experiment. If the secondary modern schools are unsatisfactory, then by all means reform them; but leave the grammar schools alone!

J. BARKER.

School Officials

School Captain: J. Barker.

Vice-Captains: A. Henry and J. Clark.

School Prefects: V. Mason, A. B. M. Deuchar, G. Mason, N. Page, C. Davenport, A. West, B. Odell.

Cricket Captain: J. Barker.

Football Captain: J. Clark.

Hockey Captain: A. B. M. Deuchar.

Athletics Captain: F. M. Holliday.

Cross-Country Captain: A. Henry.

Editorial Board: Mr. D. S. Madge, J. Barker, T. Knight, K. S. Halstead, R. Monks.

School Notes

THE SCHOOL YEAR began with 589 boys on roll, 26 more than in September, 1957. The Sixth Form numbered 100, a further increase of 20.

We have been pleased to welcome as new members of staff Mr. M. Barwick, B.A., from the University of Hull; Mr. R. E. Malin, B.A., from Birmingham University and military service in Germany; Mr. J. J. Pearce, M.A., from Hampton Grammar School, Middlesex; Mr. R. R. Price, B.A., from Birmingham University; Mr. A. G. Robinson, B.Sc., from Sheffield University, and Mr. E. Thomas, B.Sc., from the University of Wales.

Our congratulations and gratitude for their valuable services here to the many members of staff who have gained promotion. Last July Dr. C. B. Chapman left us to enter industrial research with British Nylon Spinners; Mr. W. G. Street went to take charge of the Modern Language Department of a London School; and Mr. D. M. Surry joined the staff of the Slough College of Further Education as Assistant Lecturer in Geography.

At Easter Mr. A. J. Rowland moved to Norfolk to take charge of Mathematics at Downham Market Grammar School.

In April Mr. D. E. Oldfield went to Newland Park Training College to be Lecturer in English.

Mr. A. D. Purvis is now Headmaster of the new Kingsmead School, Datchet.

In July Mr. F. T. Blagrove joins the Mathematics Department, and Mr. F. Davies comes to take charge of Economics in the Sixth Form, and to teach Geography.

In September Mr. G. P. Sonnex becomes Senior German Master at Boreham Wood Grammar School, Hertfordshire, and his place here will be taken by Mr. D. Shotton, B.A., at present teaching in France.

Mr. D. A. Wilson goes in September to Ranelagh School, Bracknell, to take charge of music there, and Mr. R. Saunders leaves in July to enter commerce.

We have been pleased to have the very valuable assistance this year of Mr. M. Fichet from Montargis, France.

Mr. B. A. A. Knight, who left us in 1956 for experience in North America, is now teaching History at Westcliffe County High School for Boys, where he takes charge of the History Department in September.

We congratulate Mr. G. Tourret, who was with us in 1955/56, upon his success in the difficult Agrégation examinations last summer.

New academic distinction has been gained for the school by the five boys who qualified for State Scholarships last July, and by Andrew Hudson, who won an Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Downing College, Cambridge, and by Brian Odell, who has the honour of an Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Clare College, Cambridge. It is hoped that other boys will strive to emulate these.

We are very grateful to Mr. Fenner Brockway for conducting a party of our Sixth Form Historians through the Houses of Parliament, and for making it possible for them to attend debates either in the Commons or in the Lords.

We have been pleased to welcome back Steven Martin from Malta, Kenneth Robey from Scotland, and Christopher Halsey from industry and the civil service.

During the past year the ancient elms in the school field have lost their upper spreading branches, which were becoming dangerous. Beauty has been sacrificed to safety, but amends have been made with the planting of new flowering trees and shrubs.

Richard Jenkins and Robert Taylor were successful in the R.A.F. Apprentices Examination, and are now in training at Halton.

Our gymnastic team once again defeated Eton College team in the annual competition held during the Spring Term.

School is proud to recall that Dennis Edwards, who recently gained his Association Football Cap for England, is a former member of this school.

A Science Exhibition and Conversazione were held for parents and boys on the evening of the 19th March.

At the end of June, 1958, operations were begun to convert the old kitchen into a Biology Laboratory. Although the work was not completed until mid-February, everyone is delighted with the result and are grateful to Mr. B. Harwood, County Assistant Architect, and the builders, Messrs. Bowyers, for the excellent design and equipment.

On the 18th July, 1958, Mr. G. P. Sonnex left with 17 boys for a month's stay in Essen, Germany, after which a party of German boys came to Slough. A similar exchange takes place this year, but the party is much larger.

We continue to be grateful to Miss Crawford for the dancing classes she arranges for our Sixth formers.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Church and Mr. and Mrs. Madge on the birth of their daughters, and to Mr. and Mrs. Saunders on the birth of their son.

Parties of senior boys have made expeditions to Dale Fort, Malham, and Juniper Hall Field Centres, as well as to the Lakes.

Sixth Form scientists have been privileged to hear a British Association Lecture given on the 15th January, by Dame Kathleen Lonsdale on Crystallography, and to attend a day course at the Slough College of Further Education for the study of Radio Isotopes.

The School Choral Society achieved enhanced prestige by its excellent performance of Handel's "Messiah" in school on March 21st.

In October 36 senior boys attended the London lecture on the Transantarctic Expedition.

We had a surprise visit from Robin Bowers last summer when he was on vacation from Michigan State University.

Our Carol Concert and the school carol singers in Datchet raised £10 for famine relief.

Taking advantage of the handsome opportunities afforded by modern industry, David Arthur gained one of the seven scholarships awarded by the British Coking Industries Association, and Michael Deuchar and David Windle were awarded an Exhibition and Scholarship respectively by the College of Rubber Technology.

Proceeds from the School Athletic Fete held on July 12th were shared between the magazine fund and the physical education fund.

We have been pleased to welcome in school from time to time former members who are now at university or engaged in industry, commerce, and the Services.

Our congratulations to Michael Spinks, who has recently been gazetted Lieutenant in the Fleet Air Arm, and to Andrew Marshall, who has gained his commission in the R.A.F.

Hail

K. Bachelor, M. Barnes, C. Bass, M. Bell, D. Benstock, K. Blackwood, R. Breen, F. Britton, J. Brooks, P. Burtenshaw, P. Butterly, M. Cameron, A. Campbell, I. Carter, R. Chantler, D. Coe, R. Columbine, R. Coutts, D. Crawshaw, L. Davies, R. Dawson, T. Dawson, D. Dilnot, M. Doncaster, S. Durbin, C. Earthrowl, G. Edwards, H. Field, N. Flynn, L. Gardner, A. Gearing, C. Goodall, R. Hancock, D. Hannigan, R. Hanson, M. Hardwick, J. Hawke, R. Heath, G. Hester, M. Hide, S. Holmes, A. Johnson, K. Kennedy, D. Knight, C. Lane, N. Langford, R. Lisney, R. Lister, R. E. Lister, R. Littler, M. Lovell, J. Lyall, J. Martin, K. Mathias, G. Miller, J. Mole, G. Moore, S. Mrowka, J. Osborn, R. Paice, M. Parker, A. Parsons, A. Pell, R. Pepper, A. Phillips, M. Phillips, J. Raisbeck, D. Roberts, G. Roberts, S. T. Roberts, R. Sargent, R. Saul, R. Scott, L. Selzer, C. Sherlock, B. Smith, P. Smith, D. Solomon, R. Spalding, G. Spellman, N. Stuart, F. Taylor, I. Thomas, P. Thomas, A. Towersey, J. Twisleton, G. Walker, M. Watson, W. Walter, D. White, P. White, C. Willson, T. Wood, J. Ashby, R. Packwood, A. Mole, J. Reeves, A. Gooth, A. Richardson, C. Lewis, A. Lomax, J. Connor, G. Ball, P. Derks, A. Muray, S. Martin, D. Far, D. Morrow, J. Beaumont, A. Layzell, P. Nicholas.

Farewell

Upper Sixth:

D. G. Arthur, J. Bamborough, B. Beasley, P. H. Clements, R. F. Cooper, P. G. Davey, M. Deuchar, M. S. Dovey, N. Edwards, J. F. Flynn, F. Gore, D. E. Harding, R. G. Hughes, S. J. Hyde, P. E. Lawrence, W. Layn, J. G. Marshall, J. A. McCann, T. G. McLain, C. O'Donoghue, M. C. Parks, J. F. Passler, J. F. Pickering, R. Pleace, D. S. Ralley, R. H. Sandilands, T. T. Sheehan, H. J. Spelman, H. L. Steen, P. R. Thomas, W. E. Thomas, R. Walmsley, B. K. Watts, D. T. Williams, D. Windle.

Lower Sixth:

R. J. Harding, R. J. Johns, J. Scowen, J. F. Gaynor, R. Edwards.

Fifth Form:

P. J. Adkin, G. J. Alley, K. L. Antill, A. J. Adkins, B. Bennett, B. Blackford, I. J. Bradshaw, R. E. Burke, R. Cleveland, R. Croad, A. E. Crookford, A. Dench, P. Eyre, M. Farnell, C. C. Flynn, L. Fowler, D. M. Fraser, D. J. Freeman, T. Gallager, F. E. Giles, S. G. Godley, V. E. Goss, C. D. Halsey, A. Haskell, G. N. Horne, R. M. Lister, R. D. MacHarry, P. Mansfield, J. R. Mathews, A. Moss, D. Oakes, D. A. O'Keefe, R. Palmer, M. Pells, W. Picton, M. Portsmouth, S. Redstone, P. Salmon, M. Simmonds, J. Smith, J. Stowell, R. Taylor, R. H. Thomas, P. Thornily, T. Turner, T. Watkins-Field, R. C. Watts, P. J. Williamson, K. Wooton, C. D. Youngs.

Senior School Speech Day, 1958

FOR THE second time in the School's history, Speech Day, Friday, 5th December, was held in the School Hall. The Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. J. T. Ireland, welcomed senior boys and their parents to this auspicious occasion, honoured with the presence of the Archdeacon of Buckingham, the Venerable Gordon D. Savage, who was to present the prizes.

The first item in the evening's programme, however, was an admirable rendering of the "Brother James' Air" by the Assembly Choir.

Then the Headmaster gave his annual report. Having thanked the staff and the Board of Governors for their help and work, he went on to outline the School's achievements in both the academic and the sports field. He said that a "brilliant sixth"—a headline in the local press—was an overstatement, and that hard work and toughness of character, if eyes were kept firmly on their goal, were the essence and the very backbone of a successful sixth form. The house system had been fully introduced into the School, and he hoped this would foster keen rivalry as well as the team spirit and comradeship among the boys, especially those of the junior school.

Archdeacon Savage, after presenting the prizes, also stressed team spirit and the need for co-operation between boy, teacher and parent. He congratulated the School on its achievements, reminding the boys that the greatest achievement is not only the training of the body but also, the mind and spirit. With such a firm partnership, he said, our success would be even greater.

A vote of thanks was proposed by the Head Boy, J. Barker, and seconded by his Deputy, A. Henry.

The Choral Society completed an enjoyable evening with two spirituals and the folk-song "Linden Lea" arranged by Sommervell.

PRIZES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JULY, 1958.

FOURTH FORMS: Subject Prizes

French, M. R. (*Biology, Physics, Chemistry*); Lister, D. H. (*Woodwork*); Davis, R. S. (*German, French*); Stenning, M. R. (*Mathematics*); Eyre, J. J. (*Geography*); Purdy, M. B. (*History*); Taylor, N. G. (*English*); Elliston, A. C. (*Latin*); Makepeace, C. B. (*Art*); Mearns, J. B. (*Metalwork*).

FIFTH FORMS: Subject Prizes

Whitaker, R. J. (*English Language, Latin, French, German, Biology, General Science*); Bayford, J. L. (*History*); Clements, E. G. (*English Literature*); Johnson, A. M. (*Geography*); Taylor, P. A. (*Mathematics*); Fowler, J. S. (*Chemistry*); Ray, B. (*Physics*); Dewar, W. A. G. (*Art*); Simmonds, M. (*Woodwork*); Thorne, W. R. (*Metalwork*);

LOWER SIXTH: Subject Prizes

Davenport, C. (*English, Latin, History*); Jervis, A. (*French, Latin*); Knight, T. F. (*German*); Clark, J. (*History*); Titcomb, I. W. (*Geography*); Mant, J. C. (*Economics*); Halstead, K. S. M. (*Pure Mathematics*); Mason, V. (*Applied Mathematics*); Osborne, W. (*Combined Mathematics*); Deuchar, A. B. M. (*Physics*); Page, N. (*Biology and Chemistry*).

CERTIFICATES FOR "ORDINARY" LEVEL SUBJECTS

8 subjects Butler, K.; de Burton, A.; Head, M.; Whitaker, R. J.; Oakes, D. L.; Parsons, A. C.; Fahey, R. A.; Freeth, D. C.; Summerhayes, C.; Taylor, P. A.

7 subjects Alderman, A.; Ashley, R.; Ayre, G. A.; Collins, N.; Dearlove, R.; Fowler, J. S.; Green, M. J.; Palmer, R.; Dalton, G. J.; Halsey, C. D.; Hill, E. J.; Johnson, M.; Moss, A. R.; Ray, B.; Robey, K.; Clements, E. G.; Smith, D. I.; Thomas, W. D. R.

- 6 subjects Bayford, J. L.; Chaplin, R. G.; Lovelock, N.; Simmonds, M.; Greenfield, R.; Marshall, P. G.; Monks, R. M.; Pape, J.; Redstone, S. L.; Roberts, B. A.; Salmon, P.; Hibbert, G.; Rix, P. D.; Smith, J.; Thomas, R. H.; Thorne, W. R.; Tong, W. L. V.
- 5 subjects Donaldson, B.; Eyre, P.; Fraser, D.; Bartlett, A. J.; Hanson, M.; Portsmouth, M. J.; Clay, P. M.; Dewar, G.; Watts, R.
- 4 subjects Bennett, B.; Burrell, R.; Jebson, J. F.; Mansfield, P.; Buckingham, D.; Croad, P. A.; Stanger, R.; Youngs, C. D.
- 3 subjects Alley, J.; Antill, K. L.; Bradley, G.; Farnell, M.; Flynn, C.; Freeman, D. J.; Giles, F. E.; Cleveland, R.; James, D.; Jones, K. G.; Jones, R. M.; Knight, R.; Blackford, B. A.; Burke, R. E.; Taylor, G. H.

ADDITIONAL TO SIXTH FORM STUDIES

- 4 subjects Gallagher, T. F.
- 2 subjects Haskell, F. A.
- 1 subject Blackburn, A. E.; Colbourne, M. N.; Dibling, R. C.; Layn, W. J.; Oliver, C.; Clements, P. W.; Edwards, N. A.; Hudson, A.; Odell, B. G.; Passler, J. F. E.; Steen, H.; Thomas, W. E.

UPPER SIXTH FORM

Oxford Certificate of Education (Advanced and Scholarship Levels)

Mason, G. J.; (*English, Latin, French*); Pickering, J. F. (*History*); Passler, J. F. E. (*Geography*); Hyde, S. J. (*Economics*); Harding, D. E. (*Applied Mathematics*); Cordery, A. R.; Williams, D. T. (*Pure Mathematics*); Odell, B. G. (*Physics*); Hudson, A. (*Chemistry*); Edwards, N. (*Botany, Zoology*); Walmsley, R. (*Biology*).

COUNTY EXHIBITIONS

Cordery, A. R.; Dovey, M. S.; Layn, W. J.; Mason, G. J.; O'Donoghue, C. P.; Passler, J. F. E.; Pickering, J. F.; Ralley, D. S.; Williams, D. T.; Clements, P. W.; Davey, P. G.; Deuchar, M. A. W.; McLain, T. G.; Parkes, M. C.; Steen, H. L.; Walmsley, R.; Watts, B. K. R.; Windle, D.

SCHOLARSHIPS

STATE:

Edwards, N. A.; Harding, D. E.; Hudson, A.; Hyde, S. J.; Odell, B. G.; (*On reserve list*) Williams, D. T.

COLLEGE OF RUBBER TECHNOLOGY:

Deuchar, M. A. W.; Windle, D.

BRITISH COKING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION:

Arthur, D. G.

CERTIFICATES

Arthur, D. G.; Barker, J.; Beasley, B.; Burfoot, C. F.; Clements, P. W.; Cooper, R. F. H.; Cordery, A. R.; Davey, P. G.; Deuchar, M. A. W.; Dovey, M. S.; Edwards, N. A.; Flynn, W.; Gore, F.; Harding, D. E.; Hudson, A.; Hughes, R. G.; Hyde, S. J.; Layn, W. J.; Marshall, J. G.; Mason, G. J.; McCann, A. J.; McLain, T. G.; Odell, B. G.; O'Donoghue, C. P.; Parkes, M. C.; Passler, J. F. E.; Pickering, J. F.; Pleace, R.; Ralley, D. S.; Sandilands, H. R.; Sheehan, T. J.; Spelman, M. J.; Steen, H. L.; Thomas, P. R.; Thomas, W. E.; Walmsley, R.; Watts, B. K. R.; West, A. T.; Williams, D. T.; Windle, D.

A.C.F. Certificates A—Parts I and II

Arden, N. R.; Ayre, G. A.; Buckley, D. G.; Burrell, R. A.; Colbourne, M. N.; Emslie-Henry, A. C. C.; Lovelock, N.; Palmer, R.; Roberts, B. A.; Robey, K. G.; Simmonds, M.; Thomas, W. D. R.

Outward Bound School, Moray Sea Course

Emslie-Henry, A. C. C. (Honours D).

SPECIAL PRIZES

Library Service: Senior—Lewis, M. Junior—Preest, D.
Swimming Championship Challenge Cup (*presented by County Alderman A. E. Ward*) Emslie-Henry, A. C. C.
General Service: Ralley, D. S.
The "Ford" Cup (*for outstanding voluntary service to the School*): O'Donoghue, C. P.

Dramatics Prize: Sandilands, H. R.

Music Prize: Pleace, R.

Magazine Prizes: Senior—Cooper, R. F. H. Junior—Stuart, I. D.

Old Paludians' House Shield (*for Games and Athletics*): Hampden House.

Headmaster's Prize: Barker, J. (Head Boy 1957/58).

The Prize Fund has been greatly assisted by the generous donations received from Parents, for which the School is most grateful.

School Activities

Twelfth Night

THE UNDYING APPEAL of the Shakespeare play can be attributed, in part, to the range of character and atmosphere; the personality of the servant vies with that of the master.

"Twelfth Night" is no exception. The action flows from two springs—the comedy of the sub-plot, and the sentiment of the main plot. These are in the way of being extremes, the sentiment of Orsino being heavy, almost cloying, the comedy of Sir Toby and Sir Andrew at times approaching farce. But the impression left on the mind of the spectator is neither of farce nor of sentiment; rather it is the humour of the situation which results from their interplay.

Shakespeare is laughing at the foibles and failings of his characters, each one acting as a foil to the others, each revealing his personality by contrast with the rest. The author draws freely from the pack; here he holds the colourful nobility, here the knave, Sir Toby, with his comic consorts. With a deft shuffle he introduces the joker, Feste, and Viola, the ace of hearts; and now they must sort themselves out, and in so doing, provide us with a fine comedy of character and situation.

In a school production of a comedy of humour, the pendulum is apt to swing too far towards the comic, resulting in farce and loss of characterization; for the characters only gain their individuality by contrast. The striking feature of this production was the fine balance between sentiment and comedy.

Sir Toby, that bluff, dominating rogue, who lives and drinks by the financial bounty of his niece, Olivia, and friend and fool, Sir Andrew, was vigorously portrayed by Norman Lovelock. It is a pity that, while capturing perfectly the atmosphere and character of Sir Toby, notably in the drinking scenes, he lost something of audibility.

Roger Monks, also using an assumed voice, was perhaps more clearly audible as the effeminate, foolish knight, Sir Andrew; and any slight defect was more than redeemed by his fine acting and miming, particularly in the duel scene.

Maria, the wickedly coquettish maid to Olivia, was impeccably played by Michael Reeves. Every moment and mannerism was authentic to the high-spirited servant-girl.

These are the three conspirators who seek diversion in practical jokes; the butt of their japes, and subject of the sub-plot, is the steward to Olivia, Malvolio.

Malvolio—"sick of self-love" and of puritan conceit—would fain win the hand of his lady, Olivia! Colin Davenport brought considerable understanding to the part, displaying the boundless conceit of Malvolio, yet gaining some sympathy from the audience by the very success of the plot to ridicule him. He was admirably aloof from the lesser members of the household, but could, one felt, have spoken more directly to Olivia, the object of his suit.

In direct contrast to this comic company, rise the lingering sighs of love-lorn Orsino, Duke of Illyria. Keith Martin conveyed well the impression of this eligible nobleman, distinguished in hunting and war, yet unsuccessful in love; one whose enraptured speeches stem from poetic sentiment, rather than true passion.

The object of his unrequited suit is the Lady Olivia, so competent to regulate her household and assess the merits of others, yet unable to control or comprehend her own sudden passion for Cesario. David Alder captured her elegant bearing and changing emotions well—the society is fortunate in possessing boy-actors who excel in women parts so varied as those of Maria and Olivia.

The hub of the main plot is Viola, who, disguised as Orsino's messenger Cesario, is attracted to her master while attracting the attentions of Olivia. Richard Gale gave a polished and wholly delightful performance, displaying Viola's unpretentious love for her master, and establishing a link between himself and the audience. Perhaps the clearest speaker, he played his double role with easy charm, and a quick eye for humour.

Charles Tyrie did good service as Viola's twin brother, Sebastian. The dénouement could perhaps have been happier—the twins were not quite as identical as an "apple cleft in two".

A link between all the characters is the clown—the Shakespearian clown who is "wise enough to play the fool"; who is now wasting the midnight hours in revelry, now displaying his wit and wisdom—albeit to some profit—to a duke; equally at home singing a song-of-the-road or a sentimental ballad. Jim Barker succeeded in all these facets of the clown's character. It is a pity that the witty dialogue has lost much of its significance to the spectator today. However, his Feste had the authentic ring of the Shakespearian fool—and he more than did justice to the charming ballads, which have lost none of their beauty since Shakespeare's day.

As those who saw "Twelfth Night" will agree, the joint production and casting by Mr. Purvis and Mr. Oldfield were, for the most part, excellent; and the cast tackled their parts with the verve and enthusiasm we have come to expect from them. The performance brought home a basic aspect of the genius of Shakespeare—to see and produce so much of life, not with the cynical sneer of today, but with a benevolent smile for the absurdities of his characters. Such a work, not consciously didactic, yet has much to teach. We are indebted to all those involved, both on stage and behind the scenes, for a refreshing slice of humour in the modern diet of bitter almonds.

G.J.M.

Morts sans Sépulture

FOR THE FIRST time in the history of this school it was decided to produce a full-length French play. After a term of continuous hard work, just before the Easter holidays the "cercle français" gave a performance of

Jean-Paul Sartre's "Morts sans Sépulture." This was an ambitious choice, much effort being required to learn all the lines and to produce the necessary dramatic effects, and there was no buffoonery or elaborate costume to obscure bad acting.

The action of the play is set in war-time France in 1944 and concerns a group of French resistance fighters who have been captured and are awaiting torture in the hands of the French miliciens of Marshall Petain's puppet government. It is inevitable that the heroes of the play finally emerge triumphant and that the traitor government will eventually be overthrown, but Sartre's impelling sense of 'force of destiny' convinces us that they will not escape with their lives. The dialogue is admirably used to produce a fast-moving plot where climax and tragedy follow each other in quick succession.

It is very commendable that this inexperienced cast, of which only one member has previously appeared in a school production, has obtained such worthy results. Throughout the play the correct atmosphere was maintained and several of the performances were particularly praiseworthy.

G. Ayre played a convincing Canoris and looked and acted in keeping with his part of a war-hardened French Greek. A. Jones gave a well-spoken portrayal of the very intellectual Sorbier, who chooses to commit suicide rather than endure torture. C. Evans proved a calm unflurried heroine Lucie, sister of the unfortunate François, played by C. Burley, who in the most anguishing scene is strangled by Henri to prevent him betraying information to the enemy. Henri was played by N. Collins and Jean, Lucie's lover, by G. Mason. The miliciens comprise three officers:—Landrieu (a bully of a man who is really revolted by the sadism of his subordinates), the frustrated, grudging Pellerin and the bestial, sadistic Clochet. I. Lindop, A. Jervis and M. Head gave stalwart performances as Landrieu, Pellerin and Clochet but were not the villainous, unpleasant characters that they should have been. A. de Burton, K. Butler and R. Whitaker were three miliciens and M. Kolaszynski was the voice on the radio.

It is a pity that much of the dialogue of the play was spoken too hurriedly with consequent loss of meaning. Another noticeable fault, which was undoubtedly due to the inexperience of the cast and the lack of dramatic intuition on the part of the producer, was the faulty stagecraft. More demonstrative, explicit acting would have put across to the audience much of the meaning of the words which had been lost through the language difficulties. Simpler treatment of the action, with more left to the imagination would also have been advisable, particularly in the torture scenes where, for example, the off-stage howls of Canoris were far more effective than the on-stage beating of Henri.

The scenery was ably built by the stage-hands under the direction of Mr. A. Rowlands and, with the aid of careful lighting, was effective in its simplicity. Mr. N. McCabe, Mr. R. Malin and Monsieur M. Fichet deserve much praise for their consistent efforts in coaching and producing the cast. It is to be hoped that the "cercle français" has been sufficiently encouraged by the results achieved to repeat this success with another French play. Finally, all those who took part in this production are worthy of our thanks and congratulations for their enterprise.

A. LUCAS-SMITH, U.VI.

"A Particular Party"

"Be happy all—the feast is spread before ye;
Fear nothing but enjoy yourselves I pray!
Eat, aye, and drink—be merry I implore ye,
For once let thoughtless Folly rule the day!"

THE ABOVE words, from the comic opera by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan called "The Sorcerer", certainly applied to the party given by the

boys of the Humboldt-Schule, Essen, for their English and French guests, on July 24th, 1958. This party was one of the highlights of the 1958 exchange with the Humboldt-Schule.

After Herr Kostuch, the French teacher, had welcomed us, the party immediately went into full "swing" with some items from the school orchestra. Then a group of French boys sang three songs—one French ("La Petite Diligence"), one German ("Hoch auf dem gelben Wagen"), and one English ("Clementine"). Schüler Dieter Efferts then gave us three songs—"The Yellow Rose of Texas", "Granada", and one of his own compositions, the words of which rivalled Lewis Carroll's famous "Jabberwocky!"

Two members from our party, Robert Stevens and George Taylor, gave us a wonderful display of gymnastics; Udo Phillips sang "Mr. Wonderful"; some German boys entertained us with four extremely clever sketches and Ian Stuart played an arrangement of a Mozart opera-aria on the piano.

Three boys from each country took part in an International Quiz. The results were that France gained first place and Germany second and third. The best that England could do was fourth! So it seems that England must "work hard—stick to it—nothing like work!" and perhaps this year the results will be reversed.

All too soon the time came for Herr Kostuch and Mr. Sonnex—who accompanied the English party to Germany—to say their farewell words. ("How Time flies when one is thoroughly enjoying oneself!"). Everyone present then linked hands "in Friendship's name" and sang "Auld Lang Syne"—each country singing it in its respective language—(Quite an experience!).

I know that I speak for the whole of the English party when I say to the masters and boys of the Humboldt-Schule: "Thank you very much indeed!" Also, all of the English boys would like to thank the German parents for putting up with them for over four weeks, and for being so kind and helpful in so many ways.

Naturally we all wish to extend our grateful thanks to Mr. Sonnex for all the hard work he put into the trip and daring to take us over the sea and far away.

IAN DAVID STUART, VA.

The Dale Fort Expedition, 1959

AT 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 4th March, there congregated in the Waiting Room of Slough Station a number of odd-looking characters. But there is no need for alarm, they were merely members of the Sixth Form, with their escort, preparing to depart for their annual field-course at Dale Fort Field Centre, Pembrokeshire. The party consisted of five Upper Sixth Biologists, dressed in a colourful assortment of clothes, and four Lower Sixth Geographers, dressed with amazing uniformity. The journey was mainly uneventful, the only highlights being the arguments pursued for the whole duration of the journey, during one of which one member most decidedly declared that the reason why sea air was so strong was because of the salt evaporated from the sea; the amazing way in which certain members of the party had acquired definite Welsh accents by the time we had reached Newport; and last but not least the cynical remark made by our escort on discovering a small metal identity tag which had been attached by us earlier to his suit-case, thinking only for his safety. Surprisingly enough the train was on time, and some eight hours later we disembarked at Haverfordwest Station, the nearest Railway Station to Dale. Half an hour's hectic coach ride, a twenty minute walk, and we had reached our objective—Dale Fort.

On the whole the weather was mainly fine, though we were continually assured that it was going to rain: perhaps it was the salt in the air . . .

Surrounding the walls of the Students' Common Room there is a magnificent display of stuffed sea birds which certain members of the community found very interesting, and there was also a very large owl which was admired by everyone, so much in fact that more than one person took a photograph of it. However, on our first morning at the Fort we got down to the work that we had really come for. The main object of the Biologists was to study the plant and animal life that occurs between the high and low water marks. As the majority of us were not acquainted with the types that occur on the shore, the first two days were spent in collecting and identifying all the specimens we could find. Two days were then spent in investigating the distribution of these animals and plants, first on a sheltered shore, and then on an exposed shore and comparing the two results. As we were lucky enough to be there at a time when the very low Spring tides occur we spent a day studying the life that is not normally visible, only being uncovered at these extremely low tides. One of the Biologists also spent a couple of days doing some research into the growth of limpets under different conditions. He measured the height/length ratio of some 500 limpets from three different situations—a north-facing barnacle-covered rock, a south-facing barnacle-covered rock, and a seaweed-covered rock all at the same level below high water mark. Some very interesting results were obtained from this work. The last day was spent by the Biologists digging on the mud flats near by in search of animals adapted for burrowing in the mud. This day proved eventful for one, who spent some time extracting his posterior from the thick, sticky mud, into which difficulties he had been helped by another member of the party.

On the whole the Biologists had a very successful week, even discovering a bivalve which they were told had not been found in that area before, and of which they were rightly proud. Only one thing marred the week, and that was that they failed to find a Strobilating Scyphistoma, which they were assured was plentiful in that area.

The Geographers, under the leadership of the resident Geographer, turned most of their attention to the study of the Geology of the area. It is understood that they had a certain amount of walking to do, about which none of them were too happy.

In addition to this they did several land utilisation surveys where they decided whether the land in a certain area is put to the best use. On the last day they paid a visit to the Fish Market at Milford Haven where they saw how fish was landed and auctioned.

On the Saturday night most of the Welsh boys who were staying there with us seemed to go into a sort of stupor, for no apparent reason, but we were assured by our escort, who is an expert in Welsh Folklore, that this was quite natural, and that it happened to the best of people in Wales. Our week at the Fort was rounded off by a party, which started off with dancing(?) and ended up with certain mystic rites performed before a large crab. We were told by one of the staff that nothing like this had ever happened before, and they were probably hoping that it would never happen again, but anyway we all had a good time, and it was a very enjoyable evening.

It remains but to offer our thanks to the Warden and the staff of Dale Fort, especially the Assistant Warden, Mr. George, who made it possible for us to have such a wonderful week, and last, but not least, to Mr. Binstead who looked after us 'so well'.

H. G. GILBERT, C. F. BURFOOT, U6.

F.A. Schools Week, Easter, 1959

THIS EASTER, Jim Clark and I attended the Eighth Annual Schools Week run by the Football Association. The course is held in alternate years at Oxford and Cambridge, and this year the eighty or so Grammar and Public School boys lucky enough to be chosen were housed in Trinity College, Cambridge.

Trinity is the largest of the Cambridge Colleges, most of which are built in the form of four-sided blocks enclosing a quadrangle or Court. At Trinity there are three such Courts—Great Court, Neville's Court and New Court. From Great Court, ten stone steps lead up to the Hall, which occupies most of one side of the Court. Lord Burghley, the former Olympic hurdler, jumped these steps in one leap, but although several people on the course tried it, no one managed to emulate him.

Another of Lord Burghley's activities, apparently, was to run round the outside of the court while the clock over the Chapel was striking twelve which, on the rough cobbled surface of the paths (undergraduates are fined 17/6d. for walking on the lawns), must have been pretty good going. We learned that it must be done at midnight, partly because it is easier to dodge the dons at that time, and partly because, owing to a mechanical defect, the clock strikes midnight twice, giving the runner about forty seconds to complete the course. Why the clock should strike twenty-four at midnight and only twelve at mid-day, we could never understand, but no one was sufficiently concerned to stay up and see if it was true.

The first day of the course was to be taken up with trial matches. We found the standard of football high, although the strong wind, hard ground and light ball made first-class play difficult. The public-school boys stood out quite conspicuously, as they tended to play a style of football quite different from that of the rest of us. Public-school football is orthodox almost to the point of being old-fashioned, characterised by the strict W-formation, a tendency for defenders to rush into the tackle, and a conspicuous lack of individual finesse.

As a result of the trial matches, teams were picked to play against three leading amateur teams. Jim's team lost 4-0 to a powerful Civil Service XI, while the side I played for beat Cambridge University Falcons 3-1.

We knew that the Schools Week 1st XI, as well as meeting Pegasus on the last day of the course, was due to play a Scottish Grammar Schools XI at Celtic Park, Glasgow, on 21st April. The probable team gradually took shape as the week progressed, but we all continued to play matches against such amateur teams as Oxford University Centaurs, London University Sidonians, Universities Athletic Union, London A.F.A. Old Boys and Corinthian-Casuals. These matches, like the trial matches, were played on St. John's and Jesus College grounds. The only exception was that against Corinthian-Casuals, which was played on the ground of Cambridge City F.C. We marvelled at the way in which the F.A., with the air of a conjuror taking rabbits out of a hat, produced complete sets of clean kit for each of the thirteen representative matches.

A drawback of the organisation was that one's reputation tended to be made or marred during the trial matches, and it was difficult to counter a poor showing at this stage, even by brilliant displays later on. Thus Jim, after only average trials, earned the praise of the *Manchester Guardian* on both occasions in which he played in representative matches (only one other boy earned two mentions in the national press during the week), yet did not make either the 1st or 2nd teams. A result of this was that in a few cases, enthusiasm tended to wane when it became clear that one was out of the running for a 1st or 2nd team place. The keenness of the great majority, however, was shown by the support given to the 2nd XI, which played magnificently to beat an F.A. Youth XI 7-2, and to the 1st XI, beaten 1-0 by a very strong Pegasus side which, to quote *The Times*, "never needed to get into top gear."

We left Cambridge, as we had arrived, in a violent rainstorm, which quenched the ideally nostalgic departure from the beautiful "city of dreaming spires" (sorry, that's the "Other Place, some way West and slightly South," as one of the dons put it, and anyway, there can be few places less conducive to nostalgia than Cambridge Station). In more comfortable circumstances, however, the memories come crowding in, and any one of them could in itself provide sufficient material for an article.

The soaring splendour, superb vaulted roof and deep peace of Kings College Chapel . . . the Backs, and the river bordered with thousands upon thousands of spring flowers . . . the baths at Trinity—never in the history of plumbing were there such magnificent baths! . . . the boys we were with (especially the two who reminded us of the characters in the Kenneth Horne programme who start every time with, "Hello Rodney!" "Hello, Charles!") . . . the stained-glass windows in Peterhouse . . . above all, the football . . . this really was a holiday to remember.

J. BARKER, UVI.

Malham, 1959.

EARLY THIS YEAR, and for the first time, the geographers of the Upper Sixth travelled to the tiny village of Malham in Yorkshire to follow a short study course of limestone scenery. There were no less than eight in our party, and we were joined at our destination by Mr. Purvis, who had journeyed separately by car in order to remain in the north of England afterwards and receive the Lakeland party during the Easter holidays. Our residence for the six days, March 18-24th, was neither a chilly field centre nor a crowded hostel, to which we are accustomed, but a majestic hotel with spacious bedrooms and excellent food!

This may be misleading as to the purpose of our expedition. It was a holiday of no kind whatever, but rather a hard and thorough week's work, though differing from normal circumstances in so far as we were physically instead of mentally, exhausted at the end of each day. As a change from dreary school rooms and desks, however, a few days strenuous activity was welcomed and enjoyed by all of us (with the exception of one, whose inexperience and disabilities were quite sufficient to justify his complaints).

For the time of the year the weather was unexpectedly warm and dry, the only exception being Sunday during which rain poured down incessantly. Yet that day proved to be the most exciting. We had the opportunity of seeing two of the largest and most famous pot-holes in the country, Alum Pot and Gaping Gill, both of which are magnificent natural shafts in the land surface. Their bases are invisible from above, and streams pass into these holes dropping vertically for many hundreds of feet (the waterfall at Gaping Gill is twice the height of the famous Niagara Falls). We managed to explore, as far as we dared, the passages of Long Churn, connected with Alum Pot, but lacking the necessary equipment to complete a full-scale pot-holing expedition we had to content ourselves with the magnificence of Alum from the surface. It was decided that we should walk from Alum to Gaping Gill by the shortest possible route. This necessitated crossing a wild and open stretch of moorland for over three miles and passing beneath the eastern slopes of Ingleborough (we would, no doubt, have climbed to the summit on a fine day). Our experienced guide, travelling round by car, arranged to meet us at Gaping Gill.

Now that trek, looking so short and simple on paper, was the most fatiguing task we had to perform. The badly-drained ground had reached saturation point, and more than once we found ourselves knee-deep in swamp and jeered at by woolly creatures who somehow manage to sustain themselves in such country. As if this was not sufficient discomfort we were shortly enveloped by a moorland mist, causing us to lose our sense of direction completely and proving how utterly useless a map can be on these occasions. We plodded on with the aid of a compass and met two adult scouts, who had no more idea of their whereabouts than ourselves. Concealing our own frustration, we indicated to them some vague direction and proceeded on our way (we did not read of two scouts being lost on the slopes of Ingleborough, so presumably they stumbled upon a more reliable source of information). As we descended a shallow gully, the mist began to lift and we espied the massive hole known as Gaping Gill. Our guide was beaten by a long way, thus proving that a map, compass and stout pair of boots far surpass these modern forms of transport.

He was eventually to be seen in the vicinity of Ingleborough Cave and did not hesitate to congratulate us on our map-reading ability under such appalling conditions.

The remaining days, being brighter and more favourable, were spent in making a close investigation of the Malhamdale area, and compiling information accordingly. The most prominent features to notice were underground drainage systems, dry gorges, inland cliffs, swallow holes, water issuing points and limestone pavements, all characteristic of a limestone landscape. On Saturday and Monday we had the pleasure of exploring caves, which can be found occasionally in cliff faces or "scars" of limestone. One had a very complex structure, but the caverns usually consisted of one long, narrow passage leading many feet into the rock mass. These were penetrated for a fair distance until the uncanny darkness within made a retreat desirable. On the second occasion we overcame this fear by acquiring candles and torches for the purpose.

Our stay in Malham, far too short for such a lovely district, was due entirely to the arrangements of Mr. Purvis, and for this concern for the educational opportunities of his pupils he deserves full credit.

C. REES and I. TITCOMB, UVI.

The Lake District, Easter, 1959

IT WAS AT 6.30 p.m. on the 27th March that the peace of the County Youth Hostel was again shattered by the energetic members of this year's Lakeland Expedition. Between then and the moment when peace was restored (for another year, at least) at 8 a.m. on April the 4th, the above-mentioned energetic youths had lost most of their energy, washed enough dishes to last a lifetime and begun to get used to sleeping on mattresses as hard as the fells on which they "bashed."

This year we were unfortunate in only having seven days up at Keswick. Of these, two were set aside for trips to Calder Hall and the Roman Wall. During the remaining five, the weather did its best to dampen (perhaps "soak" is better) our spirits. However, various parties conquered these peaks:- Cat Bells, Maiden Moor, Red Pike (although here there is an element of doubt), Grisdale Pike, Grasmere, Pillar (this has not been climbed since 1953), Scafell Pike and Helvellyn. The weather must be blamed for the brevity of the list. It was indeed so bad, that any assertion by members of one of the microscopic Lakeland hamlets that theirs is the wettest place in England, is believed to be valid. True or not, most of the boys could have qualified as England's Biggest Drip, after Tuesday's walk half way to Stockley Bridge.

The following day, however, the Sixth Form successfully climbed Scafell Pike in glorious weather, while the Fifth Form patrolled Hadrian's Wall (centurion-in-chief—Mr. Purvis). I hasten to add that this day was the only one worthy of the word "glorious." On other days, besides being soaked to the skin, we were normally navigating by dead reckoning in peaspout cloud. The climb of Helvellyn was further endangered by a howling wind. Luckily, due to the cloud, hardly anyone knew what he would have fallen onto, had he slipped.

It was from this summit that Mr. Oldfield and three budding poets disappeared into the howling mists to sign their names in the visitors book at Dove Cottage (Mr. W. Wordsworth, a fell walker, lived there).

On the final day, we again went to Calder Hall to sample Britain's Atomic Secrets. We were again treated to a very lucid explanation of all things atomic. Mr. Oldfield, however, was *very* shocked to hear from the mouth of one eminent scientist that Mr. Wordsworth was not a great fell walker. He was a Botanist!

Finally, I must express the thanks of all to Mr. Purvis for arranging this the 15th Purvitour. Also to Messrs. Oldfield, Price and Wilson for leading so few parties astray. In addition we all want to wish Mr. Purvis and Mr. Oldfield every success, happiness and prosperity in their future posts and all hope to see them up at the Lakes again. The two Mac's (the Warden and the Coach Driver) must also receive their due share of our thanks. It only remains for me to add that faithful supporters of the Purvitours will be sorry to learn that although a certain Keswick milk-bar was offered to a rich member of the expedition, the said member refused since his capital had already been invested in Kendal Mint Cake!

V.M.

Cadet Notes

WHY ARE YOU not going to Cadet Camp? Well, the answer can hardly be the cost. The only charge made to the Cadet this year will be £1 as a contribution towards the cost of his food. No charge is made for the journey to and from Norfolk, where the camp is to be held this year from 1st to 11th August.

Last summer, the camp was in a delightful place by the sea looking across to the Isle of Wight. From the mess tent the great ships could be seen on their way to and from Southampton Water. The two-day adventure and initiative exercise and night operation was a success, even if the Company Commander, caught between two fires, did have to wait four hours while the N.C.O.'s boiled enough water for a cup of tea!

Major Mott, i/c Travelling Wing and Captain Cracknell, Training Officer of the Regimental Depot, were two officers attached to the camp from the Regular Army. We were greatly indebted to them for what they did for us, and, indeed, for all their help during last year both here at School and at Cowley Barracks. We are sorry to have to record that the Depot has closed and the Travelling Wing been abolished. So ends another chapter in the story of help to Cadets from the Army.

Fortunately the County now has its own full-time training officer, and as first holder of this new appointment we take great pleasure in welcoming Major G. D. Franklin (Border Regiment) who will be in charge of training at this year's Summer Camp.

Before then, we shall have been visited by our new County Commandant, Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd, Bt., C.B., C.B.E., and inspected by the Formation Commander, Brigadier D. D. Zvegintzov, O.B.E. Before then, too, we hope some Cadets will have passed Certificate "A" and Signals examinations.

This past year has been distinguished in a number of ways. For the first time for many years the strength of the Company stands at 58. One of our N.C.O.'s attended and did very well at an Outward Bound (Sea) course in Scotland. Another N.C.O. was awarded one of the highly competitive Royal Air Force Scholarships. For the first time also, two Cadets, G. D. Buckley and K. Robey attended a ten days course in vehicle maintenance with R.E.M.E. at Bordon, Hants. They will be the first members of the company to gain Certificate "T", at least since the War. In Signals, the most notable development is the offer from the War Office of two new types of wireless set. Moreover, for the first time we are competing at Bulford in June in a .303 competition. Last, but not least, the more senior members are planning to give at the Fete a demonstration of drill.

The Company Commander wishes to acknowledge the outstanding contribution made this year to the running of the Company by the N.C.O.'s. They really have been first class. There is going to be a big gap when some of them leave this July, especially such a loyal member as Cpl. Burfoot who has been a member of the unit for six years and who has always been a fine example to the rest in his turnout.

We should also like to pay a tribute to the enterprise and enthusiasm of the Senior N.C.O.'s, Sergeants Rees and Levings. Apart from their general duties in connection with the planning and arranging of weekly training and of field-days, they also each ran a Signals course throughout last year and in both cases the S.O. II from Bulford was able to pass all their pupils both for Instructor's Certificates and for Classification. This was a fitting testimony to their efficiency and persistency. We hope that they and the others who are leaving will find opportunity in their new careers to show their quality.

In conclusion, we welcome N.C.O.'s of the future in the Recruits, most of whom have passed the Recruits Test with flying colours.

Examinations successes were:- Certificate "A": L-Cpls's R. A. Burrell, M. N. Colbourne, A. C. C. Henry, N. Lovelock, B. A. Roberts, W. D. R. Thomas, Cadets N. R. Arden, G. A. Ayre, G. D. Buckley, K. Robey, R. Palmer. Part I: Cadets M. L. Dean, W. A. G. Dewar, M. R. Martin, J. B. Mearns, H. J. Roberts, R. Selzer, G. C. D. Winfield. Signals: Instructor's Certificate: L/Cpl's R. A. Burrell, N. Lovelock, B. A. Roberts, Cadet R. Palmer. Classification: Cpl W. R. Osborne, Cadets R. Selzer, H. J. Roberts, G. C. D. Winfield. Certificate "T": Cadets G. D. Buckley and K. Robey.

In the Part I examination held in May this year, the following Cadets were successful:- R. Cobbett, T. Daly, G. Riglar, F. Shrubbs, P. Steinwender, P. Stopp, G. Thomas, T. Yeomanson and C. Young. All are to be congratulated on passing an exacting examination with a clear margin of marks.

Jazz Club

Chairman: G. Oliver; *Secretary:* J. C. Mant; *Treasurer:* M. Colbourne; *Committee:* C. Summerhayes, J. Burden, A. Gibson.

MEMBERS OF THE theatrical profession have long been complaining that television, and no doubt the radio and cinema to some extent, have been luring away their audiences. This unfortunate situation would also seem applicable to local jazz clubs. The so-called enthusiasts will listen for hours to records of jazz programmes on the radio, but seem unwilling to attend live jazz concerts in their own town. This is even more of a surprise when it is realised that the population of the area is around the 70,000 mark. One would surely think that out of this large number, several hundred would be willing to spend an evening out each week listening to good jazz when it is provided almost on their doorstep.

However, it would seem that attempts at fostering local jazz clubs are doomed to failure. Until quite recently there were regular Wednesday evening sessions of traditional jazz held at the Carlton Ballroom in Slough, which usually featured such famous British bands as Ken Colyer's, Acker Bilk's, Sandy Brown's, and many others. At first, attendances were good, but subsequently they declined to such an extent that the management finally decided that it would be far more profitable to devote Wednesday evening to the noble art of Cha-Cha'ing—shame on the public.

Those devotees of modern and progressive jazz may pounce upon this dismal statement and triumphantly declare that it is undeniable proof that what they consider is archaic jazz is becoming eclipsed by the better conceived modern jazz. But their initial triumph is overshadowed when they are forced to admit that the same thing is happening to modern jazz clubs, in Slough, at least. The National Jazz Federation recently sponsored modern jazz sessions at the Dolphin Hotel. Such masters of British modern jazz as Alan Ganley, Tubby Hayes and Ronnie Ross (a recent performer at the Newport Jazz Festival) were frequently on the billboards advertising these sessions.

There is definitely something amiss with a population of some 70,000 who cannot lend an ear at least once a week to concerts given by some of the finest traditional and modern groups in this country today.

School jazz club meetings have shown a similar decline. This is possibly due to the fact that they tend to be devoted more to traditional than to modern jazz, but these programmes are based on available records, which are mostly traditional. Attendances are also undoubtedly diminished because of the inconvenience of holding lunchtime meetings. Attendances might improve if there were joint meetings with the Girl's High School on certain occasions, but this is by no means certain for two reasons. Firstly, the female interest in jazz seems to be confined to Chris Barber—very commendable, and such artists as Elvis Presley and Pat Boone, whose entertainment value is considerable, but who can hardly be included within the realms of jazz. The second of the two factors is the unwillingness of most people to return to school in the evening, having once left at four o'clock.

But on a more cheerful note, I must mention here the group of Sixth formers who occasionally give lunchtime concerts in the School hall. The group consists of D. Holdford—accordion or pianoforte; E. Hill—electric guitar; R. Dibling—electric biscuit tin; G. Dalton—bass. These sessions make a very welcome change from programmes of records, and I hope there will be several more before the end of the year.

To conclude, I must say that I hope there will be a reaction against the present trend in musical 'entertainment'—for want of a better word, which will be favourable to the jazz idiom.

J. C. MANT.

The Scientific Society

Chairman: A. E. Blackburn; *Secretary:* G. F. Smith; *Treasurer:* R. Dibling.

THIS YEAR started well with numerous meetings throughout the Summer and Autumn Terms of 1958. During the Spring Term of this year, however, meetings became less frequent owing to the occurrence of School Exams in the middle of this brief Term. In the Summer R. Dibling was appointed Treasurer following the resignation of P. Middleton.

One of the most important meetings took place when the High School joined us in listening to Dr. Chapman (unfortunately no longer with us) lecturing on "Big Molecules." It was considered by all to be a most successful meeting. Numerous film-shows were held sometimes in conjunction with the High School. A wide range of subjects has been covered with particular emphasis on Oil, at least half a dozen films having been shown on this subject.

The Society looks forward to a year of increased activity especially as we have the long Summer Term in front of us during which much can be accomplished.

G. F. SMITH.

Student Christian Movement

Sponsor: Mr. Church; *Chairman:* D. I. Smith; *Secretary:* W. L. V. Tong; *Treasurer:* N. Collins.

THIS HAS BEEN the first full year of our activity and, as such, can be considered very successful. Despite a slight feeling of restraint at joining a society of this nature, our membership has risen to over seventy and we have become one of the most vigorous societies in the School. However, we still have a number of members whom we rarely, if ever, see, and it can only be hoped that they will attend our meetings in future. I do not think it would be out of place to ask all boys who profess themselves to be Christians, and have not yet joined the Group, seriously to consider doing so and thus help to spread their faith.

We have during the last year tried to hold three meetings a week: a prayer meeting; a study group; and one other 'Main' meeting. The latter has usually taken the form of an address by an outside speaker, a "quiz", or a discussion.

We have had talks ranging from Quakerism to "Windows of the Bible." During Lent it was decided to hold extra weekly prayer meetings.

The Group has also been active outside the School: just before Christmas a party of members went carol-singing at Upton Hospital and on January 22nd the group was represented at a prayer meeting for Christian Unity held in St. Mary's Church (Slough).

At the end of last year we lost J. F. Pickering, who was our "Group Leader" during the first hard months of our existence. We would like to express our gratitude to him for his work in the society. This year we have suffered another great loss: Mr. Rowland, who was the founder of the Group, left us at the Spring Term. We would like to express our sincere thanks to him and wish him all God's blessings in his new post.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Church, without whose unfailing toil and advice this Society could hardly exist. We would also like to thank all the other masters who have helped us in ways ranging from "musical evenings" to publicity.

W.L.V.T.

Geographical and Historical Society

Chairman: C. C. Evans; *Secretary:* C. Davenport; *Treasurer:* M. Lewis; *Committee:* J. Mant, R. Stanger, R. Monks, L. Greenaway.

THIS YEAR the total number of members has been the highest ever. Encouraged by this, we have presented an interesting and varied programme of meetings. Two of the society's members have given accounts of their foreign travels. T. Knight illustrated a talk on West Berlin with his own photographs, and I. Lindop's description of his experiences in Norway was supplemented by two films of the fjords of that country. Mr. Wymer, our archaeological consultant, visited the society for the third time and gave another interesting lecture, this time on "Surface Archaeology." Films have been shown on many subjects, including the Highlands of Scotland, the Lake District, West Africa, Canada and Moscow. In this way, we have visited the Mop Fair at Stratford-on-Avon, a medieval monastery and the Cocoa Harvest in Ghana. In March, a small party from the society attended a meeting of the local branch of the Historical Association to hear a lecture on the life of Elizabeth Tudor before she became Queen of England. Finally, our summer expedition this year will be to the Cotswolds.

Our thanks must go to our vice-presidents, Mr. Wharmby and Mr. Spence, who have given freely of their time to our enterprises and whose advice has always been most helpful.

C. DAVENPORT.

School Orchestra

FOR THE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA, this has been a year of progress and interest. Last October we increased our strength with five new violins from the third forms. Despite the predominance of violins in the orchestra, balance of instruments has been maintained by means of a 'cello and a viola, played by Messrs. W. Hampshire and N. McCabe.

Our repertoire has been limited to a large extent to music written before 1750, such music being entirely suitable for small orchestras. The result of this is that the orchestra now gives the impression of being a balanced chamber group, rather than a severely curtailed orchestra playing music too difficult for it, without the assistance of a woodwind, brass or percussion section.

Throughout the year our conductor Mr. D. Wilson has brought about several improvements in the quality of playing. However, much must yet be done to improve the standard of intonation and timing. It is pleasing to note that neither of these faults showed up badly when the orchestra played at the performance of the School play, "Twelfth Night."

At the end of the Easter term a group of violinists attended another meeting of the Buckinghamshire Joint Schools Orchestra at the new Quarrenden School, Aylesbury. The day was extremely successful and we were glad to have the opportunity of playing in such a large orchestra. We hope to attend a similar, but more advanced meeting in July.

We are looking forward to the future inclusion of several new violinists from the second forms and possibly the beginning of a wood-wind section.

A. LUCAS-SMITH, U.V.I.

The School Choirs

LATE ON THE night of the 21st March, after their superb performance of excerpts from the "Messiah," every member of the Choral Society, and especially Mr. Wilson and Mr. McCabe, retired to bed well satisfied with the result of the term's hard work. The difficulty this year was that we had to learn new choruses and revise all those previously learned in an extremely short term. We succeeded, however, admirably.

The combined Choral Society and Assembly Choir also gave a Carol Concert before Christmas in which the choirs rendered Christmas hymns and anthems and R. Gale read excerpts from poems on the same theme. The choirs also sang at the Senior Speech Day and at the Schools' Music Festival in May.

Both choirs are still practicing regularly, the Choral Society during the lunch hour and the Assembly Choir before school. The latter choir has learnt anthems by such contrasting composers as Palestrina and N. McCabe.

Finally I am sure all would want me to thank Mr. Wilson and Mr. McCabe for the energy they have expended on the choirs and the pleasure this has given us. Mr. Wilson must be specially mentioned as we heard, with regret, that he is leaving us. We wish him all the success he deserves in his future career.

A SORE-THROATED TENOR.

The Morris Men

Squire: J. Barker; *Bagman:* R. M. Monks; *Musicians:* Mr. N. McCabe, C. R. Timms.

LAST YEAR WAS a very successful and rewarding one for the Club. Our dancing repertoire has been increased through the patience and guidance of Mr. Doncaster, whom with our faithful musicians, Mr. McCabe and Colin Timms, we would like to thank very much.

Apart from dancing at the School fete, we took part in the Windsor Day of Dancing and in early September organised our own tour around the villages of Buckinghamshire. The audiences were very appreciative and we received many invitations to dance at local functions. Our Squire and Bagman were invited to the Whitchurch Morris Men's Feast Day and greatly enjoyed their hospitality. We hope to share many days in the future with both clubs participating in tours around the countryside. In this way we feel that apart from enjoying ourselves we are also helping to keep alive this fine old tradition.

If any boy of the 3rd forms and upwards wish to take part in this healthy recreation would he either see Mr. Doncaster, J. Barker, or myself.

R.M.M.

The Natural History Society

Chairman: N. A. Page; *Secretary:* C. Tyrie; *Treasurer:* H. G. Gilbert; *Committee:* D. Wilson, J. Lynch, D. Buckley, P. Bradley.

THE PAST YEAR has seen a large increase in the number of members, and the society has therefore been able to present more film shows than was previously possible. In addition, it became worth while to invite an "outside"

speaker, and we are very grateful to Mr. S. R. South, chairman of the Middle-Thames N.H.S., for his most interesting lecture on Bird Migration, which he gave in March.

In spite of increased "indoor" activities the society has maintained its pursuits in the field. During the Autumn term, a Fungus Foray was held in Burnham Beeches, and an exhibition of specimens was displayed at school the following day. Also, three bird-watching expeditions were held, and all were very successful.

During the Spring term another meeting was held at Slough Sewage Farm to catch a glimpse of Winter visitors, and our thanks are due to Mr. R. Johns, former member of the school and keen ornithologist, for his expert guidance.

In January, several members of the society became partially nocturnal in beginning observations on a large badger sett. This new activity has since been pursued with much enthusiasm.

Undoubtedly the most spectacular meeting was the Society's Annual Conversazione, which took place on the return of the upper sixth form biologists from Dale Fort Field Centre, Pembrokeshire. The theme this year was "Specialization for Living," and the success of the exhibition proved to be as great as ever.

Finally, we should like to take this opportunity to thank those members of the staff, especially Mr. Colombo, who have shown much interest in our activities.

N.A.P.

Angling Society

DURING THE LAST YEAR the Society has been impaired by two very unfortunate facts. Firstly, as our meetings can only be held during the week-end, it has proved difficult to drag our members from the "Tele" to support the Society. Secondly, our coarse fishing is restricted to nine months of the year by the Thames Conservancy bye-laws. However, we have held a number of trips which were eagerly supported during the summer months. During the winter the weather was so cold that on one occasion we had to break the ice before we could fish, and it was therefore not very surprising that we had to cancel a few trips through lack of support.

It is hoped, with a little more support from members, to form a small angling team during the next coarse fishing season. But we must have support!

W. L. V. TONG.

School Library

Chief Librarians: M. Lewis, J. C. Mant, P. J. Faulkner.

DURING THE PAST year the Library has been well used by over 75% of the boys of the school. The records of books issued shows that there is an ever-increasing tendency towards the non-fiction sections.

In the past year too, there has been a re-organization of the system of sixth-form borrowing. Borrowing now has to be done under the supervision of a master at all times. We hope that this re-organization has not inconvenienced anyone, but it was found necessary, after the great number of losses which occurred in the previous year.

We are pleased to report that after the annual book check in February this year, there is only a matter of twenty books missing. In a library used by over 400 boys this is quite a remarkable figure and shows that the school is aware of the necessity of treating library books with respect.

Since the last edition of "The Swan" there have been over three hundred new books added to the Library, chiefly in the non-fiction section. These books cover such subjects as astronomy, engineering, music, and photography as well as many of the popular hobbies and sports.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the assistant librarians for the work they have done in order to keep the Library running efficiently.

The Librarians would like to thank Mr. Todd for his very great help in running the Library.

M. LEWIS.

Debating Society

ALTHOUGH THIS YEAR the society was without the guidance of Mr. Street, it has continued successfully under the joint chairmanship of Messrs. McCabe and Church. There have been a number of successful debates, among which were the following: "This house is in favour of a united world government," which was carried, and, "This house deplores the Labour Party's education policy," which was also carried.

Besides these general debates, an Inter-House Debating Competition was staged. This was won by Martin and Halstead for Herschel. The competition was adjudicated in the heats by members of the staff, and in the final by Dr. Long.

The society also took part in the Public Speaking Competition held by Windsor County Grammar School, sending Smith, T. Knight and R. Greenfield, but were not successful.

The society are now preparing the motions for the Summer Term, including a debate with the High School. We would like to thank all who have helped the society this year, among whom is R. Monks who handled the advertising.

R. J. WHITAKER, L.VI. Hon. Sec.

The Aircraft Recognition Society

Chairman: P. D. Rix; Secretary: P. A. Taylor; Treasurer: P. G. Marshall.

THE SOCIETY'S MEMBERSHIP has increased considerably this year due to greater interest shown in the Society by members of the Junior School.

Last November a party of forty members visited Vickers Armstrong's Weybridge Works. Here we were shown over the production lines, component manufacturing shops, drawing offices, etc. We saw the famous Viscount airliner in production. Another airliner in production at Weybridge is the Vickers' Vanguard, which we saw undergoing final tests before its first flight.

Permission was obtained in September to borrow United States Air Force films and two evening film shows were arranged. Although the first of these had to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control, the films were shown during the lunch hours. The other film show was held last term and some of the films were very interesting.

Further visits are anticipated in the summer and following terms, among them one to an air display.

We owe our thanks to Mr. Wilson for giving up his time in the interest of the Society and its members.

P.A.T.

From the Greenhouse, 1958-59

THE SCHOOL COLLECTION of cacti and other succulents has not been in existence for many years, but already it contains some very good specimens. It appears that the collection was started as an aid to the study of botany (cacti have very specialised structures, and are therefore very interesting botanically); and, although the collection has grown tremendously, some work is still done on them. Evidence of this work was on display during the Natural History Society's Annual Conversazione, held this year on March the 19th.

For several years, a cacti sale has been held, and all have been successful. This sale last year was the greatest success ever, for as well as offering them to the boys, a great number were sold at the fete. The greenhouse monitors are hoping to hold another such sale this year. Because so many people, both boys and their parents have been asking about collecting cacti, the monitors have compiled a pamphlet entitled: "Simple Instructions in Cacti Culture," which is to be sold during the Cacti Sale, at the modest price of threepence. Besides this, both the monitors *will try their best* to answer any further questions.

P. J. FAULKNER, U.VI.

The Art Club

Committee: G. Painting, A. Lewis, V. Tong.

THIS HAS BEEN another successful year. There has been a great increase of members since last year and many extra activities have been attempted. Movie films have been shown and trips organised which have been proved very popular. A busy programme was worked out and members joined in enthusiastically and they freely provided their own materials when necessary. Some of the members have been particularly helpful by remaining after school and stencilling the long awaited numbers on the doors.

Finally we would like to express our thanks to Mr. Evans for presiding over the club and making these enjoyable meetings possible.

The Tiddleywinks Club

President: A. L. Jones; Vice-President: I. J. Lindop; Very Hon. Sec.: R. Gale; Keeper of Club Treasury: A. F. Jervis.

ALTHOUGH THE CLUB is entirely unofficial it was thought that such a serious enterprise could not go unnoticed. The first match of the season was played against the Technical School and, to the chagrin of the tiddleywinking world, our team was defeated by 13 winks to 12. The reason for this can be attributed to several factors—the weather conditions were unsuitable, since the wind was in the S.E. and there was a gale in the North Sea, and most of our team suffered, at one time or another, severe cramp in their big toes. As a result of this defeat the team entered into strict training and struck new form after a series of rigorous exercises in manual dexterity and wink manipulation. In their second match the team found the weather conditions satisfactory, there being an anti-cyclone in the Bay of Biscay, and won handsomely against a team from the High School. Chivalry is unknown in the mundane art of winking and the team showed no mercy to their opponents, despite the fact they were very attractive female tiddlers. It is hoped that our successors, if any, will maintain the high standard the present team has shown.

A £5 reward is offered for information leading to the capture of our club treasurer, A. F. Jervis.

Sixth Form Bridge Club

ALTHOUGH THE MEMBERSHIP is small, the club has met fairly regularly on Monday evenings after school and the standard of play has steadily improved throughout the year. Two matches have so far been played, resulting in a defeat by Glaxo Laboratories and a narrow victory over Aspros. The club was also represented in the County Fair Tournament. Those who played in the team were:- J. Bayford, A. Cordery, R. Dearlove, R. Greenfield, W. Hardy, A. Hudson, B. G. Odell, A. Watson and A. J. West.

We should like to thank Mr. Dickinson for his continued help and encouragement during the past year.

A. HUDSON, Hon. Secretary.



A. Henry winning the Pole Vault.
Photo by courtesy of The Slough Observer.

CRICKET FIRST ELEVEN



Back row L-R: C. Makepeace, D. Windle, A. Watson, T. Knight, K. Butler, R. Dearlove. Front Row L-R: J. Barker, A. McCann, S. Hyde, D. Arthur, C. O'Donoghue.

BASKETBALL TEAM



Back row: R. Dibling, M. Holliday, I. Elliott (Capt.), W. Flynn. Front row: W. Osborne, I. Clark, I. Hodgson, K. Lane, G. Oliver.

The Printing Club

THE PRINTING CLUB has had another successful year with many orders, sometimes too many, to keep us busy. Although this year we have done nothing completely new, we have done much more than in previous years. We have printed membership cards for most of the school societies and several outside school. Besides letterheads, the largest orders we have to fulfil are those for programmes for the school play and "Messiah", and fixture cards for football and cricket. I would like to thank all the societies and boys of the School who have supported us and hope they will continue to do so in the future.

I think it is appropriate to mention here the invaluable work done by the members of the club at all times. We have boys from all parts of the School and most of them work extremely hard and come regularly. I would like to mention two members by name to illustrate my point. M. Kolaszynski has only missed eight meetings since he joined the club 2½ years ago. A truly magnificent record. R. Loomes is following in his footsteps. He has only missed six meetings in 1½ years.

As well as the many Friday meetings, it is often necessary to hold extra meetings when pressure of work is high and many members are only too willing to stay and help at short notice. Among them are:- R. Loomes, M. Kolaszynski, M. Houchin, M. Fuggles and R. Mason.

This shows the high standard that is maintained and those boys who are not mentioned above are doing work that is much appreciated.

V.M. (Sec.).

House Notes

Gray House

Senior House Master:

Mr. Colombo

House Officials:

House Captain: J. Clark

Vice-Captain: J. Pywell

Games Captain: A. R. Cordery

Secretary: W. Flynn

House Prefects:

A. R. Cordery, W. Flynn, D. Holford,

A. Hudson, A. Levings, J. Pywell.

From a sixth form point of view, the House system so far has been fairly successful. Both upper-sixth and lower-sixth formers have mixed easily and form matters have run smoothly. This we feel is in no small way due to Mr. Oldfield. His endless patience and good humour have contributed a great deal to the success of a combined sixth form. We regret very much his leaving us but wish him good luck and every success in his future post. To his successor, Mr. Pearce, we extend a warm welcome and look forward to co-operating with him in the ensuing terms.

Our programme during these first steps of House life has been full and varied. Apart from the normal business of the House, reports on current affairs were given, and debates and discussions were held.

We have met with mixed success in the sporting and athletic field. Although left sadly trailing in the basketball and cross-country competitions, our soccer team was victorious. We hope the latter will reflect our progress in athletics!

The fifth form group has heard talks from its own members on a very wide range of subjects; the third form group has a good record in games and athletics; while the second and first forms of the House have had great success with play-readings, chess tournaments, debates and talks. It is encouraging to see this though not so in the middle school, where there is still a great deal of apathy.

Thus it is hard to believe that the House has yet achieved that strong sense of its own identity, as a group distinct from other groups, which is the only real evidence of "house spirit." The principal work of the house still appears to lie out of doors.

Hampden House

Senior House Master:

Mr. Todd

House Officials:

House Captain: A. West
Vice-Captain: C. Davenport
Games Captain: T. Knight
Secretary: D. Rowlands

House Prefects:

A. Blackburn, F. Davey, R. Gale,
W. Hardy, T. Knight, D. Rowlands,
K. Butler, N. Collins, R. Stanger.

The "Off-Period" for the house, we are happy to announce, is over! During the last year we have won the Old Paludians' House Shield. This was due chiefly to the athletic qualities of the house members in the lower forms, and we are pleased to note that, as these approach the top of the School, there is more new talent coming in to fill the places they vacate. Next year we hope for even greater success!

We wish to thank our Housemasters for the work and encouragement they have put in, also T. Knight whose drive and enthusiasm has held our games and athletics together.

We are sorry to be losing Mr. Purvis as a housemaster and give him sincere thanks for all his past service, wishing him all success in his new appointment.

May we finally thank all those who have given unselfishly of their time and energies to the service of the House.

D.G.R.

Herschel House

Senior House Master:

Mr. Wharmby

House Officials:

House Captain: B. G. Odell
Vice-Captain: A. C. C. Henry
Games Captain: A. C. C. Henry
Secretary: K. S. Halstead

House Prefects:

I. H. Elliott, K. S. Halstead, A. Lucas-Smith,
G. Oliver, W. A. Sharpe, G. F. Smith.

In 1958, despite good performances all round, Herschel was not quite so successful as in previous years. This year, however, the spirit of the house is such that we have hopes of astronomical success.

This new spirit has been due, in great part, to the inspiration of our captain and vice-captain. B. G. Odell brought great honour to the house by gaining an open scholarship to Cambridge, and Alan Henry brought us equal honour with his success at the Outward Bound Sea Course, Moray Firth.

Another contributing factor has been the interest aroused by the two house periods we have each week. These have seen a very wide range of activities, with debates on topical news items, lecturettes, quizzes, chess tournaments and record concerts. This interest has already born fruit, for this year Herschel won the inter-house debating competition.

The house has a good basketball team, and indeed Elliot and Oliver are captain and vice-captain of the school team, but the sport in which we look most eagerly for success is athletics. It is unfortunate that injury will prevent Henry, the school athletics captain, from taking part in the school sports this year, but the inspiration of his presence will be felt. We are lucky in having a vice-captain of the quality of Alderman, and mainly through his efforts Herschel became the first house to gain one thousand standard points this year.

This report is one of hope, but we expect next year's to be a record of triumph.

Milton House

Senior House Master:

Mr. Wall

House Officials:

House Captain: J. Barker
Vice-Captain: B. Deuchar
Secretary: G. Mason
Football: C. Evans
Hockey: B. Deuchar
Athletics: M. Holliday

House Prefects:

C. Burfoot, M. Holliday, M. Colbourne,
M. Lewis, A. Jones, C. Evans.

Last year saw the final year of the old house system. It is, therefore, with added pleasure that we record the extent of Milton success, particularly in the realms of sports and athletics.

Sports Day saw Milton well established as the foremost House, having already outstripped the other houses in the gaining of standards (details appear elsewhere in this issue). In addition, the House met with extra mural success, providing the School's two representatives in the Bucks A.A.A. championships, M. Deuchar and M. Holliday, both of whom won their events. The same two athletes, together with C. Summerhayes, formed part of the School contingent in the Southern Counties meeting.

We provided four members of the Cricket 1st XI last year:- S. Hyde (Captain), J. Barker, M. Holliday and C. Makepeace. Last year saw three of our senior members playing for the Football First XI:- J. Barker, M. Holliday and C. Evans; J. Barker also represented the School in County football.

In the inter-House competition, our Senior Basketball team drew in the finals with Hampden, and were victorious against the Staff team. We found similar success in the House football league.

Reports from the junior School show signs of considerable strength, particularly in soccer and Rugby football.

Honour of another kind was brought to the House by Stephen Hyde, who gained a State Scholarship, and by James Barker, our House Captain, who is now completing his second year as Captain of the School.

Our thanks are due to all those mentioned above, and to all those who contributed to the success of the House last year, and are continuing to that end.

However, there is no room for complacency. As can be seen, success was gained largely by a core of 'old faithfuls', and activities were confined to the sports field. This year has seen the advent of a new House system; a system whereby the House is intended to perform a social function. It is questionable that this function is receiving sufficient attention.

The idea has seemed prevalent that gimmicks in advertisement can take the place of House Spirit. It is pleasing to report that Milton has not over-indulged in this form of rivalry.

However, there has remained a noticeable and lamentable lack of true House Spirit; this elusive quality is not to be artificially created; it must be founded on, and find expression in, House activities. Actions speak louder than words—and beyond athletic and sporting activities "all the rest is talk".

Our success in athletics and sport must be maintained and extended—and there is every sign that it will be; but it must find its counterpart in the social and cultural fields. The House social, omitted this year by agreement amongst the houses, must, and will, be revived—dramatics, literature and music can all play their parts in this event. In this and in other ways, we can encourage cultural interests, and promote solid enthusiasm within the House; above all, the House must become the milieu in which each member can exploit his own particular talents.

This has been a year of readjustment, particularly in the Sixth form, in all four Houses; there have been disappointments, and opportunities have been overlooked; but there is no reason why Milton should not now take the lead, provided we adopt an imaginative approach, and are not afraid to learn from disappointments of the past. We look ahead with confidence.

G.J.M.

Inter House Competitions

ATHLETICS.

Winning Houses.

Class III—Milton; Class II—Hampden; Class I—Gray.

House Championship.

1st—Milton, 328½ points; 2nd—Gray, 287½ points; 3rd—Hampden, 287 points; 4th—Herschel—242½ points.

FOOTBALL.

1st—Gray, 21 points; 2nd, Milton—20 points; 3rd—Hampden, 19 points; 4th—Herschel, 10 points.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING.

1st—Hampden; 2nd—Herschel; 3rd—Gray; 4th—Milton.

Senior Championship.

1st—Hampden, 52 points; 2nd—Milton, 53 points; 3rd—Herschel, 88 points; 4th Hampden, unplaced.

Junior Championship.

1st—Gray, 45 points; 2nd—Hampden, 74 points; 3rd—Milton 89 points; 4th—Herschel, 98 points.

BASKETBALL.

Senior.

1st—Milton; 2nd—Hampden; 3rd—Herschel; 4th—Gray.

Games and Athletics

Athletics 1958

THE PAST YEAR has been a very successful year for the athletes of the School. We had an overwhelming victory in the athletics match against Marlow and High Wycombe Grammar Schools. Thirteen new records were established on Sports Day. Our athletes did well in the District and County Sports and some of them were chosen to represent Bucks in the All-England Sports at Houghton-le-Spring, Durham.

The weather was again favourable for our own Sports which were held in July, near the end of term. We were honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Slough who graciously presented the prizes.

(G—Gray; Ha—Hampden; He—Herschel; M—Milton).

Class III.

100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.9 secs.] 1st, R. Turner (M); 2nd, T. Phillips (Ha); 3rd, I. Taylor (He); 4th, C. Ramsdale (Ha). Time: 12.5 secs.

220 Yards [Record (1949): 27.5 secs.] 1st, R. Flower (Ha); 2nd, M. Douthwaite (He); 3rd, M. Rouse (G); 4th, T. Phillips (Ha). Time: 28.3 secs.

Hurdles [Record (1957): 11.3 secs.] 1st, R. Turner (M); 2nd, R. Flower (Ha); 3rd, P. Griffiths (He); 4th, B. M. Hynam (G). Time: 11.4 secs.

Long Jump [Record (1948): 15ft. 8½in.] 1st, C. Ramsdale (Ha); 2nd, A. Livingstone (Ha); 3rd, C. Wood (M); 4th, M. Douthwaite (He). Distance: 13ft. 5½ins.

High Jump [Record (1951): 4ft. 5ins.] 1st, D. R. Rothero (M); 2nd, P. Griffiths (He); 3rd, G. Perkins (G); 4th, C. Ramsdale (Ha). Height 4ft. 2ins.

Hop, Step and Jump [Record (1956): 31ft. 3½ins.] 1st, C. Ramsdale (Ha); 2nd, S. Baggs (M); 3rd, M. Ford (Ha); 4th, M. Rouse (G). Distance: 27ft. 10ins.

Putting the Shot [Record (1951): 44ft. 2ins.] 1st, M. Hynam (G); 2nd, C. Robertson (He); 3rd, M. Ford (Ha); 4th, R. Turner (M). Distance 32ft. 3ins.

Relay [Record (1957): 55.9 secs.] 1st, Hampden; 2nd, Milton, 3rd, Herschel; 4th, Gray. Time: 57.4 secs.

Winning Team: Bathurst, Flower, Ramsdale, Phillips.

Class II.

100 Yards [Record (1957): 11.15 secs.] 1st, A. Gibson (Ha); 2nd, P. Read (He); 3rd, R. Dowding (M); 4th, P. Sirey (He). Time: (New Record) 11 secs.

220 Yards [Record (1957): 24.6 secs.] 1st, A. Gibson (Ha); 2nd, P. Read (He); 3rd, C. Hellmuth (M); 4th, G. Riglar (G). Time 25.15 secs.

440 Yards [Record (1957): 57.0 secs.] 1st, M. Elquezabel (Ha); 2nd, P. Read (He); 3rd, R. Dowding (M); 4th, P. Hinchcliffe (G). Time: 58.85 secs.

880 Yards [Record (1956): 2 mins. 16.9 secs.] 1st, M. Elquezabel (Ha); 2nd, M. Dean (Ha); 3rd, P. Beer (G); 4th, P. Hinchcliffe (G). Time: 2 mins. 17.9 secs.

Hurdles [Record (1957): 11.05 secs.] 1st, R. Hill (Ha); 2nd, C. Hellmuth (M); 3rd, P. Sirey (He); 4th, G. Thomas (G). Time 11.8 secs.

Long Jump [Record (1949): 17ft. 10½ins.] 1st, J. McGlinsky (Ha); 2nd, M. Head (Ha); 3rd, R. Dowding (M); 4th, C. Hellmuth (M). Distance: 15ft. 9ins.

High Jump [Record (1957): 5ft. 0½ins.] 1st, M. Head (Ha); 2nd, C. Carritt (M); 3rd, R. Hill (Ha); 4th, C. Martin (M) and Lepage. Height: (New Record) 5ft. 1½ins.

Hop, Step and Jump [Record (1957): 35ft. 8ins.] 1st, M. Elquezabel (Ha); 2nd, P. Read (He); 3rd, M. Head (Ha); 4th, C. Carritt (M). Distance: 35ft. 7ins.

Throwing the Javelin [Record (1955): 130ft. 8ins.] 1st, R. Ashe (Ha); 2nd, T. Yeomanson (He); 3rd, J. Clarke (M); 4th, C. Young (Ha). Distance: 108ft.

Throwing the Discus [Record (1951): 111ft. 4ins.] 1st, I. Clarke (M); 2nd, P. Read (He); 3rd, G. J. Thomas (He); 4th, D. Spring (M); Distance: (New Record) 122ft. 11ins.

Putting the Shot [Record (1957): 35ft. 11ins.] 1st, A. Gibson (Ha); 2nd, I. Clarke (M); 3rd, G. Taylor (M); 4th, J. McGlinsky (Ha); Distance: (New Record) 44ft. 4ins.

Relay [Record: Herschel House (1957): 50.05 secs.] 1st, Hampden; 2nd, Gray; 3rd, Milton; 4th, Herschel. Time: 50.05 secs.

Winning Team: Elquezabel, Froggatt, McClinchy, Gibson.

Class I.

100 Yards [Record (1951): 10.6 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, A. Alderman (He); 3rd, A. Henry (He) and J. Passler (G). Time: (Equals Record) 10.6 secs.

220 Yards [Record (1951): 23.75 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, A. Alderman (He); 3rd, J. Pywell (G); 4th, M. Holliday (M). Time: (New Record) 23.5 secs.

440 Yards [Record (1957): 53.2 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, R. Walmsley (G); 3rd, R. Thomas (He); 4th, J. Passler (G). Time: (New Record) 52.8 secs.

880 Yards [Record (1957): 2 mins. 2.8 secs.] 1st, R. Walmsley (G); 2nd, C. Summerhayes (M); 3rd, R. Hughes (Ha); 4th, H. Steen (He). Time: 2 mins. 4.6 secs.

Mile [Record (1957): 4 mins. 47.7 secs.] 1st, A. Henry (He); 2nd, C. Summerhayes (M); 3rd, R. Burke (M); 4th, J. Passler (G). Time: (New Record) 4 mins. 44 secs.

Hurdles [Record (1957): 15.3 secs.] 1st, R. Thomas (He); 2nd, J. Pywell (G); 3rd, B. Deuchar (M); 4th, P. R. Thomas (Ha). Time: (New Record) 15.0 secs.

Long Jump [Record (1944): 20ft. 10ins.] 1st, M. Holliday (M); 2nd, J. Pywell (G); 3rd, B. Deuchar (M); 4th, M. Johnson (He). Distance: 18ft. 7½ins.

High Jump [Record (1937): 5ft. 6ins.] 1st, M. Holliday (M); 2nd, J. Pywell (G); 3rd, M. Johnson (He); 4th J. Field (Ha). Height: (New Record) 5ft. 6½ins.

Pole Vault (New Event): 1st, A. Henry (He); 2nd, R. Stevens (G); 3rd, M. Colbourne (M); 4th T. Knight (Ha). Height: 8ft. 9ins.

Hop, Step and Jump [Record (1957): 38ft. 2ins.] 1st, M. Holliday (M); 2nd, M. Johnson (He); 3rd, B. Deuchar (M); 4th, J. Clark (G). Distance: (New Record) 39ft. 3½ins.

Throwing the Javelin [Record (1951): 153ft. 3½ins.] 1st, D. Freeman (Ha); 2nd, D. Harding (M); 3rd, Holliday (M); 4th, J. Pywell (G). Distance: 150ft. 8ins.

Throwing the Discus [Record (1956): 133ft.] 1st, R. Walmsley (G); 2nd, M. Parkes (G); 3rd, A. Henry (He); 4th, D. Freeman (Ha). Distance: 129ft. 5ins.

Putting the Shot [Record (1956): 45ft. 1in.] 1st, M. Parkes (G); 2nd, D. Harding (G); 3rd, A. Henry (He); 4th, M. Deuchar (M). Distance: 44ft. 4ins.

Relay: [Record (1957): 48.2 secs.] 1st, Milton, 2nd, Gray; 3rd, Hampden. Time: (New Record) 47.95 secs.

Winning Team: Burke, Holliday, M. Deuchar, B. Deuchar.

Open Mile Handicap [Record (1954): 4 mins. 55.9 secs.] 1st, M. Rouse, 2nd, R. Flower, 3rd, M. Dean, 4th R. Walmsley. (4 mins. 50.5 secs.). Time: (New Record) 4 mins. 41.8 secs.

DISTRICT SPORTS, 1958.

Group III.

100 Yards: 1st, R. Turner; 2nd, R. Flower.
Hurdles (80 yards): 1st, R. Turner; 2nd, R. Flower.
High Jump: 1st, D. R. Rothero.
Javelin: 2nd, Taylor.
Relay: 1st, R. Turner; R. Flower.

Group IV.

100 Yards: 2nd, A. Gibson.
440 Yards: 1st, P. Read, 3rd, J. McGlinsky.
880 Yards: 2nd, M. Elquezable.
High Jump: 1st, M. Head.
Hop, Step and Jump: 2nd, M. Elquezable.
Discus: 1st, P. Read; 3rd, I. Clark.
Shot: 1st, A. Gibson, 2nd, I. Clark.
Hurdles: 1st, R. Hill.
Relay: 2nd.

Group V.

100 Yards: 1st, A. Alderman.
220 Yards: 1st, A. Alderman.
440 Yards: 1st, R. H. Thomas.
880 Yards: 1st, C. P. Summerhayes; 3rd, C. Doyle.
Mile: 1st, R. Burke; 3rd, C. P. Summerhayes.
Hurdles: 1st, R. H. Thomas and B. Deuchar.
Hop, Step and Jump: 1st, B. Deuchar; 2nd, M. Johnson.
Long Jump: 3rd, M. Johnson.
High Jump: 2nd, R. Monks.
Javelin: 1st, D. Freeman.
Discus: 1st, D. Freeman.
Shot: 1st, B. Bennett.
Relay: 1st: A. Alderman, B. Deuchar, Lane, R. Thomas.

COUNTY SPORTS.

Juniors.

100 Yards: 1st, A. Gibson.
440 Yards: 2nd, P. Read.
880 Yards: 2nd, M. Elquezable.
Hop, Step and Jump: 4th, M. Elquezable.
High Jump: 1st, M. Head.
Hurdles: 1st, R. Hill.
Discus: 2nd, P. Read.
Shot: 1st, A. Gibson [Record].

Inters.

100 Yards: 3rd, A. Alderman.
220 Yards: 3rd, A. Alderman.
440 Yards: 1st, R. H. Thomas.
880 Yards: 2nd, C. P. Summerhayes.
Hurdles (110 yards): 1st, R. H. Thomas [Record]; 2nd, B. Deuchar.
Hop, Step and Jump: 1st, M. Johnson; 3rd, B. Deuchar.
Pole Vault: 2nd, M. Colbourne; 3rd, R. Stevens.

Seniors.

220 Yards: 1st, M. Deuchar.
 440 Yards: M. Deuchar.
 880 Yards: 1st, R. J. Walmsley.
 200 Yards Hurdles: 1st, J. Pywell [Record].
 Hop, Step and Jump: 1st, M. F. Holliday [Record].
 High Jump: 1st, M. F. Holliday.
 Pole Vault: 2nd, A. C. C. Henry.
 Javelin: 1st, D. Harding.
 Discus: 1st, R. J. Walmsley.
 Shot: 1st, D. Harding.

ALL-ENGLAND SPORTS.

We had 7 boys representing Bucks at Durham:- M. Head (6th, High Jump); M. Holliday (Hop, Step and Jump); R. Walmsley (880 Yards); M. Deuchar (220 Yards); R. Thomas (6th, Hurdles); T. Alderman (100 Yards); J. G. Pywell (200 Yards Hurdles).

Cricket 1958*FIRST XI.*

THE BEST SEASON for many years and, in terms of matches won and lost, probably one of the best ever. Victories were gained at the expense of the Old Paludians, The Parents XI and the Staff, while all our School opponents, with the exception of Marlow, were defeated.

S. Hyde was a first rate skipper whose infectious enthusiasm and shrewd captaincy both on and off the field was largely responsible for the success of the eleven. He succeeded in moulding youth and experience together to such good effect that a team generally lacking in any outstanding ability became a fine match-winning combination, the basis of which was a fine fighting team spirit backed up by some good, and often brilliant, fielding.

A. McCann was a most capable vice-captain, and together with the other senior members of the eleven gave Hyde very loyal support in setting a good example to the newcomers both on and off the field.

Among the batsmen, Hyde and D. Arthur made the highest scores and played some fine innings—the most memorable being a fighting partnership of 70 which won the match against Strodes after 3 wickets had fallen for 1 run. M. Holliday and J. Barker performed well on occasions as did R. Butler, R. Dearlove and D. Windle while McCann's late season meteoric rise from No. 11 to No. 1 was not without success, but undoubtedly the find of the season was C. Makepeace. Always seeming to have plenty of time to play his shots, he batted with a maturity and confidence not often seen in this class of cricket. Moreover his fielding was always first class and he often captured valuable wickets with his swing bowling, which all indicates that he could be a leading all-rounder for some years to come.

McCann was the spearhead of the attack. Always steady, he was often quite deadly and returned many fine analyses. He was ably supported by Hyde, Makepeace and A. Watson but in general the attack lacked variety and there is an opportunity for a good spinner to win a place during the coming season. Watson was always consistent and developed considerably but still has to learn the art of flighting the ball to support his nagging accuracy.

Barker continued to improve behind the stumps and some of his stopping and catching was reminiscent of his agile goalkeeping. His deputy, Butler, also performed creditably and when not required as wicket-keeper showed considerable ability in any position. Everyone performed splendidly in the field and it was in this department that on many occasions players who did not bat or bowl made valuable contributions to the team effort.

With Barker, Holliday, Makepeace, Watson, Dearlove and Butler remaining as a nucleus we can look forward to another good season in 1959.

SECOND XI.

A moderately successful season can be reported. Of the eight matches played, 2 were won, 3 drawn, and 3 lost. The following formed the nucleus of the team:- J. F. Pickering (Captain), T. McLain, J. G. Pywell, A. R. Cordery, B. Bennett, D. Freeman, J. Clark, and, when not required by the first team, T. F. Knight and C. Evans. This team suffered from an excess of fast bowlers and Freeman often found himself bowling only one or two overs and was therefore not able to use his undoubted talents to the full.

The bowling was by far the strongest part of the team, and, in spite of its lack of variety, our opponents always found runs hard to get. McLain was the outstanding bowler, taking 23 wickets for 109 runs for an average of 4.73.

The batting at the start of the season was weak, but later on it improved almost beyond recognition with Evans and Cordery playing leading parts. Pywell, Pickering, R. Dibling, Burke and Clark all made good scores in one match or another.

The fielding, especially that close to the wicket, was often first class, but our failure to turn at least two of the drawn matches into victories, must be attributed to dropped catches. The wicket-keeping was shared by Burke (who also showed a natural aptitude for big hitting) and Cordery; both of whom were keen and efficient.

Of those who played occasionally, G. Horne improved as the season progressed both as batsman and fielder, whilst Dibling in his only match showed what a valuable asset he could be to the team next year if he were able to devote more time to cricket.

J.F.P.

UNDER-FIFTEEN XI.

Out of a total of eight games played, the School team won seven, losing one by the very narrow margin of two runs.

To this very satisfactory record—which compares very favourably with the two previous years—must be added the excellent performances of the team in the Slough and District Schools Knock-out Competition, which they deservedly won.

The team was generally selected from the following:—R. S. Davis, M. Boweren, A. J. Gibson, R. B. Dowding, P. S. Read, R. Giles, M. Elquezel, G. Bull, R. Nash, R. Burry, B. Malone, R. Antill, B. Hill, T. Yeomanson, L. Greenaway, C. Timms, P. Willis.

G.P.S.

UNDER-THIRTEEN XI.

The team was young and inexperienced and though it played and practised with enthusiasm had little success in the field. Only one of the four matches played was won, the other three being lost.

The bowlers, especially J. Marks and P. Daniel, did well and dismissed their opponents cheaply. The batting, however, was very weak and failed miserably three times. In the fourth game, against Licensed Victuallers, Marks and R. Turner batted splendidly and led the team to its only win.

Marks was the outstanding player in both batting and bowling and captained the team capably. Of the younger players, Daniel and P. Robson show promise.

Football, 1958-59

FIRST XI.

Results: Played 20, Won, 11, Drawn 2, Lost 7.

DESPITE NUMEROUS set-backs, the team again enjoyed a reasonably successful season. Good wins were had over Ashford and Newland Park, but the most exciting game was the 3-3 draw against Bishopshalt. If more games than usual were lost this was because stiffer opposition was met. Unfortunately three regular members of the team received bad injuries which kept them out for long periods. Moreover, on Wednesdays, the Fifth Form boys of the team were unavailable, again weakening the side. However, the season finished on a triumphant note, the last five matches being won.

Looking to the future it is sad to notice the lack of talent in the present Lower VIth, only one of that assembly being a member of the present team. On the other hand there is a wealth of good players in the Fifth Form. The future, then, looks full of promise with successes yet to be won.

The team usually comprised the following boys:—

J. Barker (Goalkeeper). An excellent example of what a really good goalkeeper can do, inspiring confidence to the defence by combining excellent keeping with safe handling and distribution. Selected for F.A. Schools' Week.

A. Cordery (Full Back). A strong tackling back with good distribution but a slight weakness in heading.

I. Hodgson (Full Back). A sound constructive player but rather slow in getting into the game.

M. Holliday (Centre Half). The most improved player in the side. The pillar of the defence and exceptionally strong in the air.

A. Henry (Wing Half). An excellent wing half, providing his forwards with first class service.

A. Gibson (Wing Half). A consistent and tireless player always playing a forceful game.

P. Read (Wing Half). Another excellent wing half, extremely difficult to beat and full of determination.

J. Pywell (Right Wing). He made up for his lack of skill with speed, enthusiasm and a devastating shot.

R. Stevens (Inside Forward). A clever, ball playing inside forward with great potential.

R. Dearlove (Centre Forward). A natural footballer, invaluable to the team as a maker of goals, preferring to play a deep lying game.

J. Clark (Inside Forward). An outstanding player who proved himself a most capable captain in a season when the team was plagued with injuries. Selected for F.A. Schools' Week.

R. Evans (Left Wing). He set aside personal preference to play for the good of the team as a whole. An excellent team man playing a consistent game.

SECOND XI.

Enthusiasm, both before and during each match, skill of a standard not usually found or expected in second XI's, and an irrepressible 'team-spirit' which refused at any time to give in, made this season's Second XI programme one of the most successful and enjoyable for some years. The team played eleven matches, lost to Strode School, Egham, and Newland Park Training College, drew a return match with Bishopshalt, and defeated their opponents in the remaining eight games. This was quite an achievement considering that seven of the matches were played in strange surroundings.

T. Knight played at outside right and was an excellent captain. In fact with only average soccer skill he proved himself by his drive, enthusiasm and the example he set to be the equal of any team captain the School has seen. K. Butler played a most reliable game throughout the entire season as the goalkeeper, and in flashes of inspiration he made spectacular leaps and dives which kept the ball on the safe side of the posts. C. Summerhayes, although extremely 'right-footed', made up for any deficiency in skill by a determination and positioning which stopped the majority of left-wingers from becoming over-dangerous. J. Duffy was a skilful and reliable left back, with excellent positional sense coupled with a hard, and nearly always successful tackle. E. Hill at centre half made up for a lack of speed, by always appearing in the right spot at the correct moment, making good use of the ball and starting many attacks. He was ably supported by right half A. Watson, who has skill and determination which out-weigh his tendency to wander too far forward; occasionally, this latter desire was satisfied when he was put into the inside right position, where he also proved very useful. At left-half, T. Flower was fast and hard-tackling and often proved to be the stumbling-block of the opponent's right attack; his distribution of the ball was always useful and intelligent. On the left wing, M. Colbourne, although somewhat lacking in the finer art of ball-control, was always sure of his place in the team by virtue of the intense determination and grit which, combined with his more unconventional

methods of manoeuvring, often deceived the opposition and gave him success. Inside left R. Clay was not blessed with outstanding skill, but always played his best with commendable vigour, and had an uncanny knack of scoring 'impossible' goals with every conceivable part of his anatomy. Centre forward C. Makepeace did not have as successful a season as he would have liked as far as number of goals scored was concerned, but he nevertheless atoned for this by his persistent trying and usefulness as a cog in the attacking machine. K. Wallace was indispensable at inside right; he attacked, defended and schemed incessantly and was the general in attack who created openings for others and found many opportunities for himself; he was the team's leading goal-scorer.

The above were the 'regulars' of the season, although the Robinson twins played in several games; both have skill in their boots and their brains, although at times the impression was gained that they were not giving their utmost. If they correct this in the future, they will prove to be very valuable and dangerous members of the school teams. R. Dibling always played firmly and determinedly, and proved to be very useful when called upon to fill a vacancy in the defence.

It only remains to be added that the team deserve all the praise given them and all the great fun and enjoyment that the season's programme has undoubtedly afforded.

UNDER 15 XI.

The Under 15 football team had a successful season, although not winning the league, they enjoyed their games and finished runners-up. The strongest tactical team was not picked until near the end of the season, when J. Ford was switched from the forward line to the half-back division.

T. Yeomanson kept goal with confidence and could always be relied upon throughout the season. The two full backs A. Smyth and R. Curry pivoted well, covering centre half B. Antill, who made things easier for the rest of the defence by successfully holding the middle. M. Elquezabel and J. Ford, the half backs, consistently fed their forwards of whom P. Willis and P. Dowding, the inside forwards, worked hard and gave their wingers R. Hill and R. Turner, many clear runs. The latter two put across some fast accurate centres, where the centre forward, whether it was E. Foster or B. Greenland, finished off the chances that came his way.

Congratulations and thanks go to P. Hinchcliffe, M. Boweren, B. Carter, R. Giles and J. Marks, who although not making the first team regularly were always willing to fill the gaps that occurred.

T. Yeomanson, J. Ford and M. Elquezabel represented the District in the Under 15 team and P. Hinchcliffe and R. Turner in the Under 14 team.

INTERMEDIATE 'A' XI.

A successful season by an Under 13 'A' XI which finally won the Lightfoot Cup, beating Langley Secondary School by 2-0, and gained third place in the League table.

The team played attractive, successful football early in the season, but failed to maintain this form against physically stronger sides. Lack of strength was overcome in most games by constructive football, though lack of aggression was the major fault of most players.

A strong half-back line, with R. Flower and M. Bell as outstanding wing halves able to link defence and attack contributed to the team's success. These two players show speed and skill, and should do very well next season. C. Bass at centre half was a good pivot and improved with every game. At back C. Ramsdale was very energetic, and his partner, K. Robertson, an excellent positional player, saved many dangerous situations by clever play. In goal M. Lumb proved himself to be an agile keeper never frightened to dive for the ball. M. Rouse played soundly when he was in the team.

In attack, wingers P. Daniel (Captain) and R. Holmes used skill to overcome lack of inches, their intelligent play being a feature of the forward line. T. Phillips improved markedly when he wandered about to make the most use of his centre forward position. R. Breen and D. Warren were sound players at inside forward. A new boy to the School, Fox, quickly won a place in the side, his strong tackling and kicking being very useful to the team.

Much is expected of next year's team, as many of the present side will be eligible to play.

R.R.P.

INTERMEDIATE 'B' XI.

The team had a successful season, finishing second in the league to Langley Secondary 'B'. Six matches were won, one drawn and two, the vital games with Langley, narrowly lost. The team reached the semi-final of the Lightfoot Cup, but was then easily defeated by Langley Secondary 'A'.

Of the regular players, C. Pryce and D. Godfrey were energetic and persistent wingmen and Livingston at centre-forward made the most of his chances. G. Perkins, the captain, was a sound wing half and M. Holder and G. Hester strengthened a weak defence half-way through the season. The outstanding player was R. Lister who kept goal safely and courageously. Of the younger players, D. Hannigan shows promise as a lively inside forward.

Cross Country Running

Seniors.

The Senior Cross Country runners began the past season with four defeats, but the coming of the Spring Term brought a marked improvement with three decisive victories.

The first two matches, against Slough Technical School and Sir William Borlase's School, resulted in narrow defeats for the School. However, these were compensated later in return matches, when the School won decisively. The next two matches, against the Nautical College at Pangbourne, and High Wycombe Technical School, were sad defeats. The last match of the season, which was run at Windsor against the County Boys School resulted in a further victory to the School.

A. Henry was an inspiring captain but owing to injury was unable to run in all but two of the matches.

M. Dean, G. Lynn and L. Greenaway are to be congratulated for always being well placed whenever they ran.

They were well supported by T. Legg, R. Willatts, C. Summerhayes, E. Clements, K. Halstead, D. Thomas and N. Page.

It is hoped that the improvement shown by the team during the latter part of last season will be continued next Autumn.

N. A. PAGE, Upper Sixth.

Under 15.

This has not been a very spectacular season with only M. Elquezabel outstanding, but even so we were placed third at the District Championship and fifth in the County Championship when we acted as hosts to over thirty secondary schools.

Apart from Elquezabel, B. Carter and P. Hinchcliffe ran regularly and well and the following boys represented the School for this age group on occasions:- B. Greenland, S. Kochanowski, I. Herbert, J. Marks, P. Virgo, J. Virgo.

Under 13.

This was the outstanding team of the year and at full strength was never seriously challenged. We began the season with a nucleus of good runners from last year's team and these were strengthened by two promising first formers, M. Bell and R. Breen. At the District Championship at Eton we won for the second consecutive year achieving the amazingly low total of 17 points with R. Flower as the individual winner. Individual positions were:- R. Flower, 1st; M. Bell, 3rd; M. Rouse, 5th; R. Barratt, 8th; R. Breen, 16th.

Flower and Bell are also to be congratulated on being good enough to run for the Under 15 team in the County Championships.

Amongst the others who have represented the School in this age group, C. Ramsdale and D. Warren ran extremely well on occasions and the following gave valuable support:- G. Hester, D. Coe, S. Durbin, C. Bass, R. Parrish and R. Hanson.

Hockey

Once again the season was rather disappointing as far as results were concerned, but this was to be expected with the mainly young and inexperienced team. However, the fine spirit and concerted effort of the team produced some closely fought matches. Hard practice in the Autumn, combined with the experience of this season, should produce quite a good team next year.

Those who represented the School were:- B. Deuchar (Captain), A. Hudson, F. Davey, M. Lewis, A. Lucas-Smith, C. Tyrie, J. Jebson, A. Johnson, B. Roberts, D. Thomas, S. Baxter, C. Hellmuth, C. Hughes, A. Lomax, M. Martin, R. Nash, J. Savage, M. Stenning and N. Wakeham.

B. Roberts was selected to represent Bucks Colts in the Inter-Counties Tournament at Seaford College in the Easter holidays.

Roberts and Thomas were awarded their Colours at the end of the season.

A. B. M. DEUCHAR.

Swimming

The Senior Gala last November was something of a disappointment—illness reduced the size of the already small team; D. Howie, B. Hynam, A. Smyth and G. G. Thomas swam well, but not well enough to place us anywhere near the leaders. Better luck next time!

The Intermediate Gala in March provided an altogether different story, with excitement mounting towards the end when the points we needed to win began streaming in. The steady training during the winter helped us to make up for the lack of a really fast Free-style swimmers—we did not have a finalist in this event! But J. Marshall was first in the Backstroke race, K. Watson was 2nd in the Diving and also in the Breaststroke race, in which R. Godley and A. Phillips took 3rd and 4th places; in the Breaststroke Style event, Watson was 1st and K. Elliott 3rd.

Out total was now 18 points to Wm. Penn's 14, so the final result, as in so many other years, depended on the team race. Marshall, Godley, Watson and I. Taylor had been 4 seconds slower than their rivals in the team race heats, but they managed to hold on to 2nd place in the final, which gave them the points required to win the Championship.

A memorable occasion for all members of the team and particularly for their captain, Watson, when he received the Shield which has eluded us so many times before!

Now, you older swimmers, what about the Senior Gala? Now is the time to start training.

Rowing Club

Owing to the fact that most of the experienced rowers left last summer, the Rowing Club has no first crew as yet. However, this will soon be remedied as the present members gain experience. It is pleasing to note that some members avail themselves of the Club boats and instructors at the week-ends, and those who do this have obviously benefitted from the extra practice. It is hoped that more members will make use of these opportunities.

Since last summer the Club has been without coxes, but the places have now been filled by B. Roberts and M. Hanson, to whom the rest of the Club are very grateful. We wish to express our gratitude to Mr. Colombo for making the Club possible and for his tireless encouragement and instruction, and to the Eton Excelsior Rowing Club, who have allowed us the use of their premises and boats.

E. G. CLEMENTS, *Captain*.

Basketball

Now in their second season and a more experienced team, the club has had a successful year. Matches have been played against Marlow, High Wycombe and Borough Rd. Training College and more are to be arranged this term against Chiswick and Slough Master's team. Their records up to date are:- Seniors, Played 5, Won 3, Drawn 0, Lost 2; 136 points for, 147 points against. Juniors, Played 3, Won 2, Drawn 0, Lost 1. 90 points for, 44 points against.

At the end of the Spring Term, the Inter-house Basketball Championship was held. In the senior section Milton and Hampden tied for first place with Herschel third and Gray fourth. The junior section is still undecided. The climax to the championship was a match between Milton and the Staff. After a well supported and keenly fought game the Staff were defeated by 26 points to 6 points.

Regular members of the teams were:- I. Elliott (Captain), G. Oliver, R. Dibling, W. Flynn, M. Holliday, W. Osborne, I. Clarke, I. Hodgson, K. Lane and A. Henry.

R. C. DIBLING, *Secretary*.

The Gym Club

DESPITE THE FACT that two of the most prominent members left school last summer, the club has continued to flourish this year. The annual match against Eton College was arranged in February and all the members trained hard to get in the actual team which consists of eight boys. The team was chosen and in spite of early misgivings gave a brilliant display and won quite comfortably by 100 points.

All the boys in the Gym Club are grateful to Mr. Gibbs for giving up so much of his time to help them reach a high standard in gymnastics.

The team chosen to represent the School was:- A. Henry (Captain), M. Holliday, A. Lomax, I. Hodgson, K. Lane, R. Stevens, C. Carritt and G. Taylor.

M.H.

A School Anthology

The Divided City

A SHORT, TUBBY, grubby-looking gentleman in civilian clothes scraped back the door of the compartment in the 'Harzreise' express and stepped inside. Behind him in the corridor stood two green-uniformed policemen; each carried a sten gun in the crook of his arm; neither looked older than seventeen. This, and a curt demand for my passport, announced the approach of the East-West border. Forms which demanded full details of myself, my occupation, my parents and my future intentions, had to be completed, and upon payment of ten Marks for the privilege, I was allowed permission for a return transit of the Eastern Zone of Germany.

The border itself consisted of a three yard wide band of ploughed ground stretching into the distance, bordered on the West by bushes and trees, and on the East, by a three hundred yard wide area of open ground, in the middle of which stood two, tall and sinister-looking watch-towers. These, it was assumed, were to prevent cattle from straying into a farm where a better barn and more nourishing fodder could be found.

The express did not stop once as it crossed a quite normal-looking landscape, and in a few hours it entered the Western Sector of Berlin, without passing through any customs barrier. My five-week visit to Berlin had commenced.

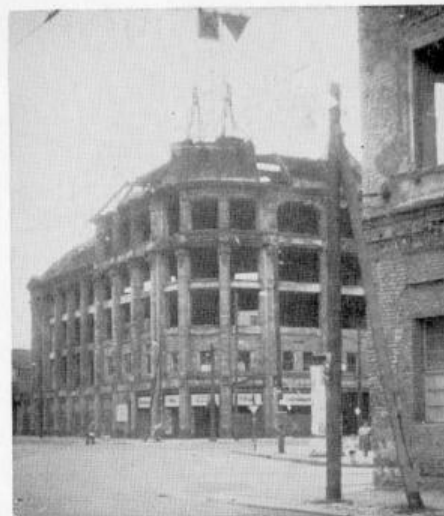
The whole of Berlin was razed to the ground during the last stages of the War, but little evidence of this can be found even in the poorer sections of the Western Sector, for the financial aid of America and the other Western states, and the obvious opportunity of using Western Berlin as a shop-window of democracy to the East, has caused the rebuilding of over ninety-five per cent of the Sector. New, clean, gay-looking buildings dominate the entire scene, giving an intensely modern, efficient, and prosperous atmosphere to the whole area. The people themselves, Cockney-like in temperament, are well- and smartly-dressed, and seem quite happy and content with their position, with a distinct air of confidence, encouraged, perhaps, by the presence of three Western armies. Surprisingly little, however, of these can be seen.

Pleasant, blue-uniformed policemen are numerous along the streets, each carrying a pistol in a holster about his waist; (it is rumoured that the police in Berlin do not round up stray dogs, but shoot them, although the truth of the rumour is open to doubt). Their manner compares quite favourably with the London 'Bobbie.'

All employees of the local councils, refuse-collectors and sanitary inspectors included, wear khaki uniforms, with red and white striped bands about their caps, arms, waists, ankles and brooms. This, it can be assumed, is to distinguish them from the police.

The food situation is peculiar to West Berlin, for all supplies which do not originate in the Sector itself, must come from Western Germany, a distance of approximately one hundred miles, and this includes such perishables as milk. Nevertheless, eggs in Berlin are still fresher than in Slough. The stock of food and supplies in Western Berlin is enough, it has been estimated, to last the city for a matter of a few years should another blockade occur; so, short of an actual invasion, there is little danger to the Sector.

The climate of the entire city, and this is common to both East and West, is more extreme, being generally warmer in Summer and colder in Winter. The sun, which I took with me for the entire holiday, brought hundreds of people out to the many huge lakes and rivers which lie a couple of miles from the city centre, where the soft sand which surrounds them rivals any seaside resort.



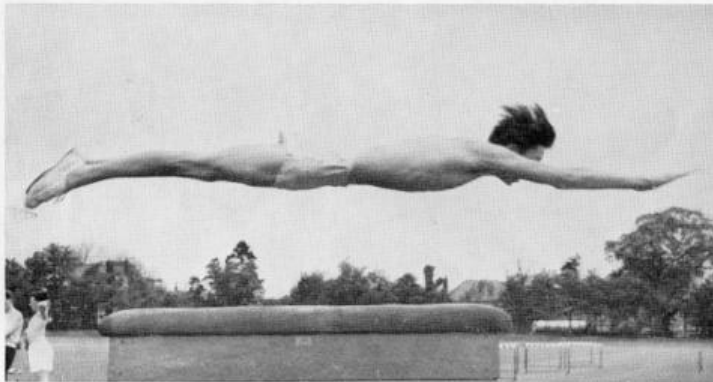
A typical street scene in East Berlin.



The Stalinallee in East Berlin.



*"Socialism is Victorious"
The Karl Marx Platz for military parades, East Berlin.*



One of this year's successful gym team doing a swallow dive.

For the first few days, I spent my time wandering around the Western Sector, visiting what places of historical interest remain, and all the well-known sights—the Siegessäule, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche, Kongresshalle, and many other places with equally long and impressive names, and eventually, and in fact inevitably, I reached the Brandenburg Gate, which stands on the border between the Eastern and Western Sectors.

I passed through the archway unmolested by the many East German Police who stood in the roadway, checking the incoming and outgoing traffic, for pedestrians are generally allowed unhindered passage between the Sectors. Indeed many East Germans come in to the Western Sector to work, or to buy food and clothing which is generally of a higher quality than that in the East. West Germans, however, are not allowed to buy anything in East Berlin apart from perhaps ice-cream.

This complicated law is enforced in a simple way; every Berliner has an identity card, and in East Berlin, this must be produced whenever goods are purchased, and if you are seen to be a West Berliner, then you may not, or should not be allowed to buy anything. The reason for this, is that the East German Mark is worth four times less than the West; numerical prices are, however, the same; i.e. if a cabbage costs one W.G. Mark, then it will cost one E.G. Mark—that means it is only a quarter of the price; therefore it is reasonable to assume that West Berliners would like to purchase East German goods, even if they are perhaps of a lesser quality. Why not allow this, and ruin the West German economy? The answer, I discovered, was that the East Germans have not enough goods for themselves, and need all they can get. East German wages, and therefore the standard of living, are lower than those in West Berlin.

Another point of economic and political interest, is that, as I discovered to my dismay one day, only in the West can money be changed from East to West Marks, and vice versa—it is not allowed in the East. I was therefore left 'moneyless' when I unsuspectingly found myself in East Berlin with no East Marks to pay my return fare. An old, rather sad-looking gentleman, however, consented to come to my rescue with the necessary East German money.

All this I discovered as I walked about East Berlin, taking many photographs of what I saw. The difference between the East and the West was strikingly obvious; ninety per cent of the buildings stood, or were propped up, as the war had left them. Ruins were by far in the majority; gutted shells, ominous, windowless, dirty and crumbling houses—often complete streets of them—lay in every direction. Occasionally a relatively built-up area could be found, but only one street, one in the entire city, was completely rebuilt, and this was the Stalinallee, renamed Friedrichsstrasse, since the gentleman after which it was originally named lost favour. Friedrichsstrasse is long broad and straight, with buildings, tall and impressive, built after the Moscow style. Even these, however, after only fifteen years, are beginning to crumble—a sign perhaps of the discontent of the Eastern Germans who were forced to build it. The rebuilding programme of East Berlin ended fifty yards down a side street off the Friedrichsstrasse.

On one in every two of the buildings of the Eastern Sector were huge, imposing placards, always red and yellow, which either proclaimed the success of Communism, praised a gentleman named Marx, ridiculed Adenauer, called for an atom-free zone in Germany, asked England and America in none-too-polite tones to remove themselves from Jordan and Lebanon, or told one to be a good Communist. Nowhere could one find a red and yellow notice which proclaimed 'Herren.' Propaganda could be found everywhere, on ruins, on boards placed along the pavements (these were for current news, and during my stay their chief object was to convince everyone that the present American recession, was a sure sign that capitalism was an 'also-ran'); and even the City Opera House was adorned with so many placards as to be unnoticed by all but the natives, or visitors with town guides. I began to feel out of place.

I continued to take as many photographs as I could, and it was not until another visit a few days later, just as I was about to photograph the Communist

'Ten Commandments' on the wall of a station, that an East German policeman, no older than I, informed me in no uncertain terms that it was strictly forbidden to do anything of the sort. My host in West Berlin later told me that punishment varied from confiscation of camera, to being shot for spying, according to the ulcers of the authorities at that particular time. I am therefore proud of my photographic collection of East Berlin.

The policeman whom I encountered at that time was a Railway policeman; there are also military police, civil police, traffic police, 'people's' police, secret police and others. These are distinguishable by the colour of their uniforms and the amount of weapons they carry; traffic police only carry sten guns.

The people themselves in the East, although adequately clothed, lacked the colour and smartness of the West, and they appeared quiet, resigned and perhaps a trifle sad, with many cares upon their minds. Children could sometimes be seen wearing the blue uniform of the Communist Children's Movement, a typical example of how the Communist doctrine is being spread. Although far too young to begin to understand the meaning of it as yet, the continual impressing of Communist teaching upon the whole population, the enforced parades and meetings, such as on May Day, the spirit of Communism which permeates every channel of their life, and their strict upbringing, will undoubtedly have an effect, perhaps lasting, upon the minds of the growing generations, gradually changing their outlook, and gradually, but surely, widening a gulf between the peoples of East and those of West Germany.

As I returned to England, I pondered over the differences between the two sectors of Berlin. It was the difference between freedom and subjugation. On the one side modernisation, happiness and prosperity; on the other ruins, sadness and struggling. The Russians after the war were bitter and determined to gain compensation, and so the best of East Germany was taken away, back to Russia; the East Germans were left to struggle on, to eke out what existence they could under the heavy and oppressive yoke of their bitter conqueror.

It is not necessarily Communism which has reduced East Germany to the poverty it now suffers, for no country can flourish under a master who removes what goodness it can produce. The difference between the East and West in Berlin is not necessarily that between Democracy and Communism—but the difference in treatment of a defeated enemy. Only perhaps by visiting Russia can a true comparison be drawn.

T. KNIGHT, U.VI.

Come Die: a song

The letters are burnt and the tears are dry,
Then come sing the cadence, the subsiding tones
For you spent your last chance, took your last try
In those years, evanescent, like unreturned loans.

The wick in the candle is dimming and low,
The storm has passed over and gone with the rain.
And when the word's spoken be ready to go
With the thought that you won't have to do it again.

You've used all your breath in the last gentle sigh,
From the wearying madder, which can no more climb,
You have squeezed the last drop of your scarlet life dye.
Let the tune finish here, for you can't take your time.

And come die, one two three, as the shadows fall deep,
Like the tide come reclaiming you, go in your sleep.
There's an end to the cadence, the subsiding tones,
They've gone with your sigh and your unreturned loans.

R. GALE, U.VI.

The One That Got Away

IT WAS A glorious chalk stream, the envy of any trout fisherman. But strangely, it was only that local village that could fish the stretch from the burnt oak tree to the ten-yard stretch of reed-mace, about a foot under the surface, the stretch where many a good trout had found refuge.

The old man checked his tackle by the flickering light of the half-burnt candle. Opening the door to his mean hovel, he set out down the road for the place he loved. As he walked down the road, other men were setting out. He knew they walked to the burnt oak tree, or near there, because a particularly good hatch of olives was on the water. He knew also that as they walked, they would taunt him, because he had not had a fish for a month and five days. "I suppose this day will be the same as yesterday, and the day before that," he thought to himself, "but this time I will fish the reed-mace stretch."

When the old man reached the water, he assembled his tackle. As he looked at the gin-clear water, his eyes filled with tears. Memories of the fighting trout he had hooked flooded his mind, memories of heavy grayling, and the time when a kelt had come upstream and he had hooked and landed it. Then it all faded, as it too often did.

He was using a Greenwell's Glory, with a Tups Indispensable as dropper. Using the method he always did, he cast out, let his flies sink, and drew them slowly in.

It was about sunrise when he felt a tug at his tail-fly. He struck gently. After a short run, the fish allowed itself to be played in. It was a grayling of about four ounces. "Those aren't fish," said the old man, "they're just a nuisance."

The old man had put back about twenty grayling by sunset. He had changed his flies about twenty times, in the hope of finding a trout with one. At last he put on the one fly he had not used, a Thunder and Lightning. He searched the box for a dropper, and, under a piece of amadou, he found it.

As soon as he saw it, it brought back memories. It was a concoction of his own, a mixture of a Greenwell's Glory, Silver Sedge and Marsh Brown. He remembered it as the fly that had lured 'Bovril' to his doom. He remembered how 'Bovril' had lain under the alder bushes, rising at anything that came along. He would have been caught long before if anyone had managed to get a fly to him. But most of them went in the alders, or were broken by 'Bovril'. Then the old man had seen a piece of floating grass, and cast across it. 'Bovril' had taken it quite leisurely, and the old man had hooked him. Half an hour he fought with the fish but at last he landed it. 'Bovril' weighed five pounds and two drams.

The old man awoke from his dream and set the fly on as dropped. He cast out and almost immediately he felt a tug that no grayling can give. The trout gave the old man a merry fight before the landing net was safely under him. He was a beautifully conditioned fish, about a pound, with a small head that was typical of the trout in that chalk stream. The old man cast out again, and felt the same response. He struck and then felt the line go out as never before. This first run had cut the old man's hand. The trout made repeated rushes, but each time the old man held him. "You are a great fish," said the old man, "you think you will never tire. I have hooked you, and I will land you. I will! I will! I will!" The old man's voice echoed through the evening air. And then something drowned his frenzy. A great splash from the trout jumping, drowned all.

The old man had seen the fish jump, and was so dumbfounded by the trout's gigantic size that he stopped his cries. The trout started to run for the weeds. The old man put on as much strain as he dared, but the fish still ran. The old man in anger put on all the strain he could, and then a sound that the old man heard only too loudly was the distinct 'ping' of his line snapping. He packed his tackle up in silence knowing it was no use trying any more. Putting the one trout he had caught in his creel, he walked through

the streets in silence, and went into the small public house known appropriately as 'The Full Creel.' The men saw him coming. They had not had a fish but were ready to taunt the old man. As he staggered in, one and all saw the trout. Then the old man fell. They caught him, and carried him home. He was placed on his bed, and his trout was laid beside him in newspaper. "He's unconscious," said one. True, the old man was far away, but he was dreaming of 'Bovril,' other trout, heavy grayling, the kelt, and his recent fight with the giant trout.

K. L. ELLIOTT, 2B.

I Saw Them Coming

I saw them coming over the hill,
Broken in file, deranged, pell-mell;
They stopped where the waters run under the bridge,
But no cry went up from the soldiers of Hell.
Then I, fatigued from the way, resting was seen
As mock battles they fought on the banks;
A possible victim for evil's cause,
I watched them assemble in ranks.
But one on the uphill path need not fear
For the host divine ever is near.
Then the forces of God a great victory gained,
While fled Satan's militia without captive chained.

C. DAVENPORT, U.VI.

The Tin-God

Everyone's always
Opening tins;
And dust is deposited
From its throne in the bins.

"Tinned food's more more hygenic,"
The scientists say;
And more and more food
Goes in tins every day.

Some live out of tins,
For their time is so short
And a meal from a tin
Takes so little thought.

They worship their tins
At their tin-opener altars
And so expert become
That their hand never falters

Removing that tooth-edged
Disc from the tin,
The monster that most
Of their nourishment's in.

And it's *tinned* foods, we're told,
That all dogs and cats love;
O worship the Tin,
All glorious above.

A.J. U.VI.



D. Airley, IVA.

A Study on Badgers

DURING THE CHRISTMAS holidays, having read an article on badgers, I was anxious to learn more about these fascinating animals from first-hand experience. I asked local gamekeepers, farmers and gardeners whether they knew of any badger communities that existed in the district. After several false trails, Foxes' Gully in "Primrose Wood" was investigated. At first, only foxes' dens were found, but one day in early January, J. Lynch (1B) found a suspected sett with at least seven entrance holes. It was a large affair covering an area of about fifteen yards square. Excavations had been so extensive that large mounds marked the entrance holes and there was a large bulge in the bank of Foxes' Gully.

We diagnosed the sett as the abode of a badger community in several ways. For instance, it had no noticeable smell, as foxes' lairs always do. There were no remains from previous meals outside the holes. Footprints were of the broad pattern made by badgers. A few yards away there was a dead tree trunk that had obviously been used as a claw sharpener, and shallow dung pits were found scraped-out in the peaty woodland soil. All these points confirmed our expectations and indeed are typical of the badger's personal cleanliness—a strong contrast with the bad habits of the fox.

Some farmers have a strong prejudice against badgers, and many are dug out of their setts, or even gassed. The accusations against Brock vary. Some people believe they attack poultry, while others say that in Autumn they are kept awake at night by the yelping and screaming of the mating adults. Most authorities state, however, that only in extremely rare cases have badgers ever attacked poultry. The fragments of evidence we have obtained so far tend to agree with this. By means of dung analysis, it was found that badgers are omnivorous. An examination of a skull—often to be found in the rubble outside the sett—shows that the teeth are modified to meet this universal diet. Among the objects we have found during dung analysis are a queen wasp, exoskeletons and appendages of various beetles, and much plant material, including fragments of acorns and chestnuts, and various other seeds. It is thought that rabbits are often taken, and subsequent analyses should show an interesting variation throughout the seasons of the year.

In addition to these finds, we can deduce something of the badger's habits and diet by tracing the various paths that radiate from the sett in all directions.

Unfortunately, these become rather indistinct in places and become intermingled with numerous fox tracks. However, we have found at least two which cross a road and strike down towards a lake. Often a tuft of badger hair is found where these paths negotiate a barbed wire fence. Other paths lead to a group of hazel trees, a thicket of rhododendron bushes, and to other dung pits. There remains much work to be done on tracing out these paths and discovering their significance.

The above observations are usually carried out in daylight, but there is the nocturnal side to our work. This includes observations on the animals themselves, undertaken by several faithful members of the School Natural History Society who each takes turn to brave the elements for one night a week. They are often disappointed—especially the photographers—but a successful evening would proceed as follows.

Two of us arrive at the wood at sunset, clad in three of everything from scarf to socks. As we enter the wood, we check the direction of the wind and proceed towards the sett with the wind in our faces. On arriving, each of us chooses a suitable tree—at about ten feet or less from one of the entrance holes—and there we sit, trying to become part of the tree and thus leaving no silhouette.

Our presence may disturb a pair of pigeons and they flap their wings high up in a pine tree. As the sun goes down a flock of rooks passes over the woods, their harsh cries fading away with the light. Everywhere becomes still and quiet as day passes into night. Then a pair of screech owls begin a chorus in a nearby oak. A rustling trot along the leafy gulley causes them to cease their competition, and a fox appears as a dark shadow over the mound. It may come very close, probably for the sake of curiosity, but then it bolts suddenly into the darkness. A vixen screams in the distance, but then silence reigns, and the air is full of expectation. Our pulses race as a rustling is heard nearby, but sound at night is so magnified that it often turns out to be a beetle or a shrew climbing over the leafy soil. One could literally hear a pin drop.

Suddenly, a brisk scuffle announces that the badgers are active at last, or perhaps a white face appears through the black depth of a hole. The badger may remain at the entrance for several minutes, nodding its head to sniff the air in all directions. If we keep still, and the breeze is in our favour, it may carefully emerge and sit scratching itself, or sneezing. Another badger—then another—may emerge from other holes, usually with much less caution than the first. One may be heard to create a sweeping noise in the leaves. This usually means that soiled bedding is being changed for fresh leaves and bracken. The animal rakes the material together with its fore-legs and pulls it down into the sett.

After the ritual of scratching and sniffing, the badgers call at their neighbours' doors, sniffing and looking into each entrance. Then they trot briskly into the darkness, passing, perhaps, within six feet of us and occasionally stopping to scent the air. It is customary for the females, or sows as they are called, to leave the sett about half an hour later.

Our outstanding hope at this time of the year is to see the cubs, for it is probable that by now (late March) there are at least two litters within the wide bounds of the sett. Soon, they should begin to make short excursions into the night. This will call for particular skill on our part, for the sows are said to be particularly wary when the young emerge.

Meanwhile, it is hoped that we shall be able to continue our studies on this fascinating mammal, for, as the seasons proceed, there is much to be learnt about the badgers' year in "Primrose Wood."

N. PAGE, U.VI.

Variations on a Well Known Theme

IT'S SURPRISING TO realise how many different ways the same thing can be said. Take any well known thought or idea and look at it through the eyes of several famous dramatists, for instance; the idea need not change fundamentally, but the contrasting treatments of it create quite independent matter in themselves. Let's have a few examples to see what I mean. Let's begin with the famous Russian playwright Anton Chekhov; how would he treat a theme like 'Futility' in one of his plays? Perhaps it would be clearer to say the 'Futility of Life' and confine him to an idea that has been a topical subject for conversation ever since man could talk. If it is possible, it is more topical than ever before.

Let us interrupt the action a few moments before the end of the last act:-

The sitting-room of FREDAKOFF'S house: evening. NICOLAI REGOVITCH, an ill-looking young man, sits at the piano. NATASHA FREDAKOFF, a pale, beautiful woman, stands behind him.

NATASHA. Do you remember the piece you played for me in this room three years ago before I left for Moscow, Nicolai? Such a simple tune, yet you played it so tenderly with such feeling, that I cried.

NICOLAI (coldly). I have a poor memory Natasha; I don't know what you're talking about.

NATASHA. Can it be? Three years is not so long.

NICOLAI. To some men it is an eternity. (He stands, shuts piano and moves away).

NATASHA. What has changed in you Nicolai? You are so cold; you seem to resent everything. Even this evening you were rude to my husband before the guests.

NICOLAI. (Takes up a bottle of vodka from the card table). Look at this Natasha, this is the sum of my life. The bottle is nearly empty, for I have wasted the contents without ever having truly tasted it. All that is left beside the numb emptiness are a few bitter dregs, which will soon be gone. I shall leave nothing behind, for I have nothing.

NATASHA. But I have never heard you speak like this, even to me. What has happened? I cannot understand . . . and yet perhaps in my inner heart, I can. Please tell me that I am not to blame for this dear God.

NICOLAI. (pours out the last of the vodka into a glass). For you Natasha I pour out these last drops. The last dregs of my miserable, hopeless life are yours.

NATASHA (weeps). You offer it to me now? . . . as if it were a sacrifice . . .

NICOLAI. There is nothing now Natasha. For what has happened to me, to my love for you, there is no reason. There is nothing. Take up the glass Natasha and drink. I have placed it at your altar. There is nothing more, nothing . . .

(Exit into garden).

Natasha, left alone, philosophises briefly on the pain of living. Her husband, Count Fredakoff, enters, looking for his pistol which he has mislaid. Natasha drinks the vodka, in spite of the Count's warning for her weak heart, a pistol shot is heard 'off' and:-

NATASHA (flinging glass away and clasping her throat). Regovitch!! (dies).

CURTAIN

Bernard Shaw, in all his writings, managed to say something about most things; he was that kind of writer. Let's see how G.B. might treat this depressing subject.

A wide terrace, with part of a garden showing: late afternoon and still warm. Norma Faucit is with her younger sister, Beatrice, on the terrace: both are beautiful, though Norma is too cool and intelligent to be as attractive as Beatrice, who is a pretty young thing.

BEATRICE. Here comes Mr. Frank Merryman from the garden. Stay here and talk to him Norma while I go inside. He makes a perfect fool of himself by pretending there's no purpose in life.

NORMA. You want me to argue with the man?

BEATRICE. Of course. I'm never so frivolous as when people say things to me that I don't agree with. But I have told him what I think about his ideas, so if you endorse what he says you will make *me* look a perfect fool. And I should never forgive you for that. I simply hate appearing ridiculous, especially when it happens behind my back and I don't know anything about it (*she goes into house. Enter Frank Merryman from the garden: he is young and earnest without appearing naive*).

After about ten minutes, their conversation turns to marriage.

FRANK. Very well then Miss Faucit, I'll admit the idea of marrying your sister has crossed my mind in the last few hours; I think she's charming, delightful and sometimes even stunning.

NORMA. Then you have no business to think that life is futile. I'm afraid you are more conceited than I thought. It is essential to feel that life is vital and meaningful if one is going to marry; marriage, you know, is a vital and a meaningful undertaking.

FRANK. Nonsense. That's all theory. Marriage *ought* to be what you say, but in practice people generally find it otherwise. It's the same with life; when the initial novelty wears off and it exhausts its vitality and interest, there is nothing natural to take its place. You can fill it artificially, and play at gods and angels but it's all self deception. Think for a moment how many religions there are in this world, and how varied they are, and then you might appreciate the absurdity of this life as I appreciate it.

NORMA. Not at all. I believe that every one of these religions and faiths and moral codes is right.

FRANK. That is even more absurd.

NORMA. In this world you must know all the points of view; take One and stick to it; it doesn't matter which you choose as long as you believe in it. Black is as good as white, and no less true.

FRANK. But I could not be so naive as to pretend to myself that I believed in anything.

And so it goes on and on and on for three acts or more.

John Osborne found himself with a monstrous, if somewhat insecure, reputation after the production of one play; as it is thought that he speaks for the majority today, let's look at the idea through his eyes—or those of many modern dramatists, for the style is common today.

A bed-sitter, furnished carelessly and tastelessly: early evening: it rains outside. Marion, tall with dark, sad eyes, sits by the small electric fire wearing only a slip: she is drying her hair. Enter Freddy, about twenty-five; he is soaked.

FREDDY. I'm soaked to my upper working class skin. I think I'd love the rain if we lived in the country, where it's vital; but here, in this stinking, concrete grave of a town, rain is nothing but an offence—an obscene one at that.

MARION. But why haven't you used your mack? It's teeming outside. You'll probably catch your death of cold now (*hangs his coat by the fire*).

FREDDY. Alright, alright, let's not have the inquisition just yet, if you don't mind. I wouldn't deprive you of your daily abuse on behalf of the frustrated mother in you, but later this evening, if you don't mind, when I'm feeling less disgusted with life in general and mine in particular.

MARION (*trying to keep calm*). I got you those books you wanted from the library. They're on the mantel.

FREDDY. I don't know why I bother to read anything. What use is knowledge to anyone in the long run? I know it's given us, or some of us, material comfort, but we have to pay for it all right. When man was so called unenlightened and slept with his wifey in a damp, cold cave, he was at least on terms with himself. Today, in a few seconds we might well be inside an atomic fire-ball and, in a few minutes, particles of radio-active dust. And we wouldn't know anything about it. Is that a fair exchange for comfort? We've got no defence against ourselves. Well why don't they annihilate us all? Why don't they carry on and press their buttons? Except for a very tragic few, none of us here would notice the difference; none of us is really alive anyway.

MARION. I've heard it all before.

FREDDY. If it should turn out that there's any sense in life, any reason or purpose to our living, it'll have to be a pretty good one to convince me it was worth it. As far as I can see, life's a raw deal.

MARION (*passionately*). Oh you think you're hard done by, don't you?

FREDDY. Who isn't who thinks? Do you know what I want more than anything else? I want to believe in something, in a cause, any cause. I want some *hope*. But where can I get it without having to deceive myself? Nowhere.

MARION. Get down on your knees then and pray for it. You would if you really wanted to, if you weren't such a coward.

R. GALE, U.VI.

I'm a hippo!
Get that first.
—Not just something
Bound to burst!
In the water,
On the ground,
I'm pretty decent
Judged all round.
See me wallow!
Hear me grunt!
Watch me do a
Diving Stunt!
Graceful! Solid!
Sound in limb!
—Why the Dickens
Should I swim?

IAN D. STUART, 5A.

The Rhino wears so thick a jacket
Is simply waste of time to whack it!
You'll never make a Rhino squirm,
That's why he's called a pachyderm.
But yet for all his innocence
He's pretty quick to take offence!
To try a game would be absurd
Because he fairly hates the word.
And if he starts to make a rumpus
You'll find no finger-post or compass
To point the way you wish to wend
For R.I.P. would be the end!

IAN D. STUART, 5A.

Under lock and key
That's we.
The nation's future we are told
Depends on us. The bold
And adventurous spirit
That is to mould
A new and better world.
But when we have our chance
We shall be dancing the dance
Of Death on our crutches.
For we're in the clutches
Of the Welfare State.
The individual is dead
But the state is ahead
In its plan to nationalize
Youth and to demoralize
Would-be radicals.
I therefore suggest
It would be best
To write slogans
Demanding new life.
Then shall fall the old from their tower;
Then youth shall come and have its hour.

A. L. JONES, U.VI.

In Love

HE WAS IN LOVE; that was obvious from the manner in which he hopped and skipped along the path. He whistled happily; it was her tune. He was oblivious to the stares and comment his peculiar behaviour aroused as he wandered down the crowded pavement. He kicked a piece of paper along in front of him. He scored a goal under someone's pram. He ignored the annoyed glare of the pram's occupant and changed from whistling to humming; it was the same tune, her tune. Oh how he wished he were already home and by her side, able to see and touch her, live in the same air as her. They had been together now for, how long was it? Yes, seventy-two and a quarter hours. Those hours had seemed like an eternity; he felt he had known her from the beginning of his own life; he could picture her now, could describe the way she moved. Bliss; this was pure heaven. There was his road, there was his house. She'd be there, waiting for him. He hummed and whistled alternately. It was her tune, "Venus". For that was the name of his motorbike.

T.K.

Nightmare

I saw no stars; but in the depths of the vortex-space,
Like phantoms surging round a sunken fire,
Surged the sons of Time; from the heaving gyre
Rose in turn each long-forgotten race
To relive its fleeting hour before the moon's pale face;
And then to tire, as all Earth's Titans tire,
And sink again into the quicksand-mire
Of dying life; to sink and leave no trace.
Then from the vortex rose an image of man
Whose gutted heart disgorged a scarlet stream
That made the pallid moon a purple sea;
Wracked with pain, his gasping throat began
To gape—he screamed!—to the echo of that scream
The wraith-man sank into eternity.

G.M.

Discourse on a Strangely Shaded Cat

Why was the cat
Such a strange shade as that?
I've never seen a runner bean
Such a curious shade of green
As that cat that sat
On the dining-room mat,
Watching the hole in the wall.
..... after all
One could hardly say that
It was vogue for a cat
To be seen wearing green.
Well, what could it mean
To a marmalade cat
To be a shade that
One really could say
Is the talk of the day?
For it cannot be said
That he's quite so well-bred,
If he finds he must preen
A coat that is green.
Now there are cats that are red, and some that are said
To be delicate mixtures of orange and blue;
There are ginger toms, tabby toms, well-groomed and shabby toms,
And others abound in shades that astound,
From margarine white to brown kangaroo;
But O there ne'er was a cat
Like this verdurous cat,
So sighably,
And cryably,
And undeniably,
GREEN!

"LUPUS MAGNUS."

One-Legged Chickens

THE DESTROYER RACED calmly through the slight swell of the Mediterranean in the direction of Malta. From the galley came the glorious smell of naval cooking and a little Maltese servant. He was carrying a tray, upon which reclined a well-cooked and plump chicken in a position which it would no doubt in its earlier life have found a trifle uncomfortable. He was bound for the Captain's cabin. Unfortunately, a rather large able seaman, with a nature not to be found in guests at the vicar's tea party, accosted the very young galley-boy in the 'tween-decks. In a second the poor chicken lay with only fifty per cent of legs.

The poor little Maltese boy, with as yet only a faint sense of values, was torn between taking the captain only half a dinner, returning to the galley and being late with a complete one, and throwing himself overboard to the sharks. Trembling, he decided on the first and rushed down to the captain's cabin, where he knocked, tip-toed in, placed the tray quietly on the table, and attempted to creep out before the captain discovered the absent limb. Alas, he was too late, and before he could reach the safety of the companionway, he had been recalled and asked to explain the cause of this one-legged chicken.

He could not report the true happenings for fear of a severe beating from the true criminal, so he sobbed a silent prayer for guidance from above, and in seconds a wonderful scheme had come to him.

"Please Cap'n sir," he stuttered, "it's a Maltese chicken, sir—'cos in Malta, sir, they only have one leg, sir."

Unfortunately for the poor little galley-boy, this captain had been well-educated and naturally did not believe the story, but he decided he would cure the boy of telling untruths and thus stated severely that the little servant was to take him ashore that evening and show him these wonderful Maltese birds.

For the next few hours, the frightened little servant prayed fervently for divine help, and each little prayer was continually punctuated by loud sobbings and wailings. That evening, although he was hiding in the food store, he was collected by the captain and taken ashore.

Still sobbing his quiet prayers, still frightened and trembling, the poor little galley-boy led the captain from the dockyard. After a few minutes walking they came across a chicken run in someone's back yard. There, the chickens, it being already dark, were asleep as they were every night—on one leg! The sight of these one-legged chickens caused the Maltese boy to jump high into the air. His prayers had been answered, here was not one, but hundreds of one-legged chickens. He turned triumphantly to the captain. The latter's reply was to clap his hands sharply, whereupon all the little chickens suddenly grew another leg and scampered off to the other side of the pen.

There was a few minutes complete silence. The poor little galley-boy looked dumbly from the run to the captain and then to the quite normal chickens. Suddenly, he burst into a fit of uncontrollable crying, at the end of which he turned to the captain and, with the air of one confronted by a magician, sobbed—"Please Mr. Cap'n sir, why didn't yo clap de hands at dinner-time?"

T. KNIGHT, U.VI.

Legend

For many a day he lay at death's wide door,
For many a day scarce breathing on his bed,
And now four days he'd passed without a sound;
"He's dead," the old man murmured, "He is dead."

A shallow grave sufficed to bury him,
Beside the wooden cross that marked his wife.
And in that churchyard many others lay,
All by the felon plague deprived of life.

The long night passed, the coma with it too.
He woke and tried to raise his weakened head;
Found himself imprisoned; with mad strength
Struggled; tinged his hands with unseen red.

The darkness clasped him like a seaweed float,
The circling pitch of nowhere but the grave.
Each moment more and more he craved the light.
And desperate a single cry he gave.

The sexton, passing by his mounded tomb,
Noticed a gentle heaving of the ground,
Heard a stifled cry deep in the earth,
Ran to tell the priest what he had found.

And soon a mournful gang was working hard
To dig the living back to life again.
But Fate is cruel; men need air to breathe;
He died, and all their labour was in vain.

Twisted in the coffin lay the corpse,
Its bulging eyes in lids of blood-black hue;
Its lacerated hands were streaked with gore:
'Twas not their friend, 'twas not the man they knew.

The plague-spots dulled his once so cheery smile,
And anguish lent a wrinkle to his brow.
The pestilence had hollowed out his cheek;
Once strong, he was a bony framework now.

The superstitious sexton, wild with fear
Said, "Where he lay transformed, he left his tomb
And darkling some vile murder did commit,
Or maimed some unborn infant in the womb."

And in his simple mind dire thoughts were stirred
Of strangled yells and gasps and splintering bone,
Of quivering fear and gutter-gurgling gore;
He did not know the man shed but his own.

The no less superstitious villagers
Far and wide the bloody details spread.
Before the tale had travelled fifty miles,
The corpse had bat-wings, tail and faceless head.

A.J.

The Theatre Today

THE THEATRE IS one of the most sadly neglected art forms today and practically no financial aid is offered by the government to such enterprising theatres as the Royal Court. In fact, and this is indeed a sad comment on the times we live in, that theatre would have closed its shutters had not several industrial firms given it substantial sums of money. We find such firms as Oxo and Schweppes showing more interest in promoting new playwrights than the Government. It is also to be deplored that the Old Vic, a theatre which concentrates on the production of plays by our greatest playwright, should be subsidised by a firm that makes beer. "Why," you may ask, "should theatres need subsidising?" There are several reasons for this. As a result of the government's present policy, culture, in this case the theatre, has been relegated to a much lower rung in the ladder of importance. The public is showered with information concerning the latest rockets, bombs, missiles, space-craft, atomic piles, telescopes that factories are straining to produce, so much so that their beleaguered minds can now only think in terms of scientific development and such light entertainment as the theatre, painting, poetry and sculpture is forgotten. Moreover it is only those theatres which cater for the minority which need subsidising. The Royal Court is, perhaps, the best example of such a theatre, for the plays which it stages have definitely a minority appeal. Recently, for example, they staged a play by Samuel Beckett entitled 'End-Game.' Only a few nights after the play had opened the actors were performing to a half empty house and as a result the play had only a short run. Admittedly the play was not easily enjoyable and, in fact, was, for long stretches, boring, but the fact is the management consider the play had an underlying thought, which they felt deserved attention, if not agreement. The result of this policy was that they had to consider turning the theatre into a music-hall for six months of the year and gaining enough profit from the nude reviews to allow them to stage more serious pieces. Fortunately they received the offers from the industrial firms and did not have to resort to such drastic measures. Were it not for those offers such measures must surely have been taken, for the government showed no signs of interest and no sign of opening the coffers.

And so we find the Windmill girls playing to full houses every night while more serious ventures have to struggle along. This, of course, shows that the majority of the British public prefer to wait for the Windmill girls than Godot. Surely, however, the minority and the more intelligent should receive more consideration than the government is showing to them now. Moreover, the whole problem is the fault of the government, for, if they showed more interest in the arts and provided more opportunities for the appreciation of art forms, if they made more people aware of the beauty contained in fine art, and I include the theatre in that category, more people would go to see serious plays than to nude reviews.

A. JONES, U.VI.

Autumn

When summer's brilliant sun has ceased to burn
And winter's clammy hand seems nearer still,
The wind blows wildly round the grassy hill
Among the golden leaves and browning fern
O'er the marshes home of snipe and herne,
To grind the golden corn in the old mill,
The lark has ceased its golden song to trill
The farmer has but little now to earn
Yet even now the air is soft and warm;
Though snow and ice are not so far away,
The summer's leaves a golden carpet form
Those leaves that were so green and fresh in May,
The earth doth lie as if in rest forlorn
To wake in spring's so warm and budding day.

M. KOLASZYNSKI. 4A.

Lament for Llewellyn

Where art thou now, Llewellyn?
Gone are those days of wine-born revelry;
Gone are those happy hours drugg'd oft in melancholy
Induc'd by sorrow'd strain of wailing trumpet's horn;
Past are those times more serious, dipp'd in heated talk
Around a homely hearth which warmed the glacial air.
Aye, vanished are those days complete with raillery,
For grinning Death and yawning tomb hath seized thee as their prey.

Where art thou now, Llewellyn?
The venging flames thy puny mortal spark have snatched;
Proud Nemesis has found thee not beyond her grip
And joined with robed Death to drag thee cruelly down;
So art thou gone, and we bereav'd must mourn
Thy cold, defiled ashes enclos'd within the tomb.
But thou know'st the secret known only to the dead
Which man so strives to grasp while yet in light of day,
The secret of our being,
The secret of all life

I. J. LINDOP, U.VI.

What is a Schoolmaster?

ALL SCHOOLMASTERS ARE born; (rumours to the contrary, unfortunately, should be disbelieved, but kept handy for enlivening dull evenings). They arrive in a variety of colours, being white, brown, black, green or yellow; (not all at the same time, of course, although it seems from widespread accounts that they change from the first to become the penultimate colour when taking up their first teaching post). Potential schoolmasters are distinguishable immediately after birth, for after the customary smack on the rear portions, they do not cry, as ordinary babies do, but instead reach for pencil and paper and make a note of this ideal form of punishment. Some are born with eyes in the back of their head.

During the following years many teachers-to-be expose their future intentions. They remove the string from their bows and use the resultant weapon to strike children younger than themselves. They pay attention at school. They get good marks in the subject they intend to teach, and come top of the class in at least two others. They are made prefects. They are continually hanging around the school staff-room in order to gain hints that may be useful to them in their future careers. They are able to write legibly on black-boards.

After gaining high honours in universities, they put on their best, "I know how to keep order and get the boys to pass exams and am good at sport" look, and proceed to their interview with their first headmaster. They invariably get the job, because there is a shortage of applicants, and the school to which they have applied is grossly under-staffed. They take up their post two weeks before the G.C.E. 'O'-level examinations, and don't know what they're doing until the next term.

New teachers are the next-best thing to none at all. They are given a nick-name, learn it after a few hours, wonder why on earth it should be what it is, and eventually learn to live with it. They find it difficult to control the form spokesman, hate double periods with form three, and always find whole class cheating when given a test. They don't think that staff-room tea is as good as their mother used to make. They make jokes which they hope will lead the boys to like them, but nobody ever laughs and they end up by wishing they hadn't wanted the boys to like them in first place. Eventually they become established.

Schoolmasters fall into five main groups (Most schoolboys would prefer them to fall into a bottomless pit from which there could be no possible return). There exists firstly the "I am strict and never smile and will not tolerate tomfoolery in or out of class and am not a good sport" type; following him, and in vivid contrast, we find the "I was a boy once and am called 'Old Jim' and make the boys laugh and am never likely to give tests and wouldn't bother to mark them if I did" type (he is always very popular); thirdly there is the "I am a new master and want to create a good impression with the staff and the boys will therefore be very strict if I can no I won't" type; the fourth example is the "I do wish the boys would pay attention to me and not throw darts in my lesson when I ask them and would get better results in the examinations so that I will be able to say that I am a better master than I really seem to be oh dear" type (he generally leaves us suddenly), and lastly we have the fifth type—Headmasters.

In conclusion, I would like to apologise to any masters whom I have left out of this survey and ask to be forgiven for any disrespect thereby shown; I can only add that you must make a more worthy effort in the future to become more conspicuous and not be content to remain just one of a kind, for variety makes a schoolboy's life so much more interesting. I should suggest an excellent manner in which to achieve this aim would be to come to school only in the holidays.

Finally I should like also to apologise to all those masters whom I have included.

(ANONYMOUS FOR SAFETY'S SAKE).

Child Of Love And Youth

How might I thank the service of mine eyes;
Who speed sublimest news that ever quest
Rewarded to this heart. Sure they are blessed
When thee beholding; though in mortal guise,
Although in human form and mantle dressed,
Thou art the spirit child of Love and Youth;
A match devised and sanctified by Truth
For pity on this world, where thou, our guest,
Bring tenderness to barren hearts, and truth
To bitter souls—like blooms and heavenly buds
To black and broken twigs. I ride the floods
Of hate that daily rise to drown us, sooth,
But only for the sake of knowing thee,
Thy love, thy smile and all thou givest me.

R. GALE, U.VI.

Beim Ersten Hören des Weidrufs im Frühling

O Jämmerlicher Jäger! Schreckliche Schützenschaft!
Er ging mit mächtiger Muskete zum Meuchelmord.
So, Schlaueitlos er schoss nur Stümperhaft,
Und kam nach Haus' ohn' Wild und Wehr und Wort.

Vor Augen des Jägers ein hübscher Hase hüpfte,
Dann folgt' Versteckenspiel frisch durch die Wälder.
Da Hyppomenes war zu bald erschöpft,
Atlanta anmutig lief ledig über die Felder.

Er hob die Flinte auf. Die Zeit war reif.
Leider flog die Kugel himmelwärts. Zwecklos gab er Feuer.
Der Rückstoss rückte ihn in tiefen Teich
Sein Wild verloren, einen Schnupfen geholt (und Hasen ja so teuer).

A. LUCAS-SMITH, (*Dank Johann Wolfgang von McCabe*).

An Eastern Tale Retold

AND A SERVANT of El Jerawi went into the market place at Kaf to buy provisions. Then he noticed, among the crowds in the market, Death, who suddenly stared at him. This made the servant sore afraid and he ran back to the house of his master as fast as he could.

When he reached the house he saw his master, El Jerawi, and told him of what had happened in the market place. On hearing his servant's story, El Jerawi gave him his fastest horse and told the servant to ride to Kasr Esrak, which is fifty miles from Kaf.

Then El Jerawi, supposing his servant to be safe, went down to the market place and found Death. He then asked Death why she had so frightened his servant.

"I was surprised to see him here in Kaf," said Death, "for I have an appointment with him tonight, in Kasr Esrak!"

FRANK V. TAYLOR, 1C.

Rose Grafting

HAVING DECIDED to earn some pocket money, I went in search of some agricultural job. I was fortunate enough to find a Rose Nursery that had a vacancy, so I accepted the offer although I knew next to nothing about roses. My work at first was hard and a little tedious but when my employer saw that I had settled down he asked me to assist him in the grafting of rose buds on to wild roses. I started this towards the end of June and took roughly eight weeks to complete them as there were about 1,200 wild roses to be budded. The wild roses used are called stocks and are obtained from growers in Holland.

The stocks are received from Holland in December. As they are not required for planting out, they are heeled into the ground. Heeling them in is just a matter of digging trenches, putting the roots in them, and then covering them up. When required they are just taken from the ground and planted properly, usually towards the end of January or beginning of February. The stocks are allowed to grow, without being interfered with, until the end of June as already mentioned. Then they are budded.

This is a very important process and must be carried out with the greatest possible care. First of all, all weeds around the stocks are cleared away and the stem below the level of the earth exposed. The reason is that the bud is put on the stock below the actual earth level. To bud the stock, a bud taken from a rose bush of the chosen variety is put into the stem of the stock. This is done by cutting the bark in the shape of a T and peeling it off the stem, inserting the bud and then tying the joint up with a damp raffia called bass. It is done very tight to ensure that no water gets in the joint.

The stock and the bud are then allowed to grow until the following February when the growth of the stock is cut off just above the bud. Then the bud continues to grow on its own very much more strongly as it can now use all the sap of the bush whereas before the bud and the wild growth were sharing it.

The bushes are now left to continue growing until the following September. At this time they are dug up and stored in greenhouses and later heeled in as previously described. The roses are then sold and the cycle begins again in December.

M. R. MARTIN, 5C.

The Wye Valley

THIS WIDE, FAST-FLOWING river, rising in the Cambrian mountains, Montgomeryshire, Wales, and flowing out into the Bristol Channel at Chepstow, is a canoeists paradise.

It is a river of a wide variety of different surroundings. It travels through steep sided wooded valleys and open fields and meadows. It has rapids and calmer patches. Another noticeable fact is the terrific loops the river takes. All the way down it passes through beautiful unspoilt countryside. Pasture land and new plantations of fir trees on the steep slopes make it a British beauty spot. The fisherman here can earn a pretty sum by catching salmon which fetch 18/6d. a pound.

For the canoeist it is a river from which one can gain valuable experience. It is not a difficult river to navigate, but it puts forward some interesting problems. Rapids which need to be carefully tackled, waterfalls which are not too difficult to shoot and other minor challenges. The river is rarely deeper than three feet six inches and at the rapids it is sometimes only three to six inches; for this reason motor launches cannot travel far upstream beyond Chepstow and consequently very few craft apart from rowing boats and canoes are seen.

For the sight-seer, a wealth of exciting places await him. Symonds Yat (Yat meaning an Island), is a high spar of land round which the river takes a fantastic loop. When standing on the top of this spar one can see the river on either side. Tintern Abbey is another interesting place. Incidentally, it is just here where the river becomes tidal. Tintern Abbey is an ancient abbey on the Wye which is probably the most beautiful ruin in Britain apart from Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire. Coming up to more recent years is Hereford Cathedral, a truly beautiful piece of architecture. There are only three major towns which stand on the Wye; these are Hereford, Ross-on-Wye and Monmouth.

All these places of interest and many others are only about a hundred miles away and can easily be explored by cycle or on foot as well as canoeing. It is one of Britain's most beautiful districts which ought to be seen by everyone.

C. CARRITT, 3C.



Lino-cut by D. Airley, IVA.

The Wanderer

The wretched vagabond of noble blood
Wanders aimlessly along a wide and well-trod path:
He, once the heavenly squire of ages past,
Has lost himself in pride and educated ignorance.
Oft' has his Lord held out his gleaming Cross,
And oft' rebuked still holds his standard high.
"Take arms against this sinful realm," He cries.
"Turn back Humanity, retrace your path,
And you will find, somewhere along the road, a fork.
Then take the narrow and neglected way,
And once you have o'ercome the toilsome mount,
You will behold a land of peaceful beauty.
Where, dressed in truthful armour, you may ride,
Following your Lord in humble pride.

"Once you, lost soul, have taken heed,
You will lift up your head, and girding on your sword of peace,
Ride out in search of truth.
Nor will your quest be long,
For once you have become your Master's slave,
In new-found freedom, you will fight besides your Master's Son,
Till cut with the sword of truth, the harvest is gathered in.
Then, when the granary is full, will you from labour rest,
And take, in joy, the cup your once predestined sire refused,
To eat instead the fruit of that accursed tree,
And thus condemn his race for time untold
To seek, in place, man's eagle-flighted gold."

W. L. V. TONG, L.VI.

News from the Old Boys

THE NUMBER OF boys going up to University last October was greater than ever before.

King's College, London, is graced by the presence of Dave Harding and Dave Ralley, who are reading Civil Engineering. Peter Clements, John Pickering and Steve Hyde are all reading Economics at University College. Steve has played for the College hockey team, and we learnt that extra-mural studies took him to Paris during the Easter vacation. Also at University College is Tony McLain, who assures us that he is reading Geography, although he seems to spend considerably more time in Slough than in London.

Our sole representative at Imperial College is 'Gunner' Steen, who is reading Civil Engineering and participating with gusto in various aspects of College life.

Four boys went to Bristol last year. Chris O'Donoghue is reading Mathematics and playing for one of the University football teams; he skippered the side which played the School last term. We learn by devious routes that Norman Edwards and David Williams are pursuing their studies in Bio-chemistry and Civil Engineering respectively. Mike Dovey, who is in the medical school at Bristol, has been a regular end-of-term visitor.

Brian Watts is at Nottingham, reading Economics. Several members of the present Sixth Form hope to join him this year.

Dave Arthur is at Manchester on a British Coking Industries' scholarship, reading Mining Engineering. Away down in the West Country is Mike Parkes, who is studying Geology at Exeter. John Passler is reading Geography at Leeds, and with him is Bill Layn who, asked whether he was indulging in any athletic activity, replied no, not exactly, but he had watched the University rugby team once or twice.

Dave Windle and Mike Deuchar have joined Tony Wynne-Jones and Nick Cousins to make up an S.G.S. foursome at the Institute of Rubber Technology. Roger Walmsley is studying Pharmacy at Chelsea Polytechnic.

Of others who left last year, Tony McCann and Barry Beasley are with Aspro, Fred Sheehan is working at Horlicks, and Peter Thomas is with Credit Lyonnais in London. Frank Gore is a solicitor's articled pupil, Rod Cooper is a reporter on the Western Mail and David Oakes is a student Public Health Inspector at the Town Hall. He recently announced his engagement to Miss Betty Vipan. John Bambrough is at Newlands Park Training College and Roger Pleace is at Culham Training College, near Oxford.

Now for older old boys. Bert Ackrell and Bob Gale are still at Bristol, where they are working for Ph.D.'s. We congratulate Bob on being selected to play soccer for the Young Amateurs of the West in one of a series of Olympic trials. Barry Garner, after taking a degree in Geography at Nottingham, was awarded a Fullbright scholarship and is now in America. Edgar Wallner has taken a degree in Pharmacy at Nottingham, where he is President of the Union, and is at present doing a post graduate course with Boots Drug Stores. We have heard that he now hopes to give up Pharmacy in favour of a teaching post.

We learn from various sources that J. F. Flynn, Ronnie Johns, John Daly, Wynn Loveday, Dennis Edwards, Brian Pulsford and Tony Bradbury have all been married during the past year. On the grounds of personal safety, the editors feel unable to publish any news of engagements which is not received at first hand, and must regretfully leave the vast quantities of information on this topic untouched.

The Old Paludians

THE FIRST FULL year has now passed since we moved into our new home. The year has been one rather of consolidating what we have, rather than further extension. Football, hockey and cricket have all been played at the ground, Pope's Field, and our guests entertained afterwards, in our home. To the older playing members this is something that we have long looked forward to, always.

The usual dances at the Dolphin Hotel and coach trips to London Theatres have been held and enjoyed by all, and needless to say those interested in the financial side of affairs have been pleased at the sight of increased profits.

The Official opening of the club and ground was held on June 7th of last year, when the cricket team played, and beat the School. A fete which was not unfortunately helped by the weather, followed after this, and later on in the evening a dance was held in a marquee. The latter being a great success, over three hundred people dancing, if that is the word to describe the antics used these days, to the music of Jack Marshall.

During the winter two or three "hops" were held at the Club House and on the whole, results were gratifying to the organisers. Also lately a new club has been formed within the Old Pals—a Motor Car Rally Club. At the moment it is quite popular and there seems to be no reason why this should not continue to prosper (if anyone else is interested).

At the time of writing there is a certain amount of feverish activity around the Club House. Next Sunday, May 31st, the cricket club is due to play a Show Bizz team which apparently includes in its members Messrs. Keith Miller and Bill Edrich. Amongst the others playing are Trevor Howard, Mike and Bernie Winters, Lonnie Donegan, Pete Murray and Bernard Breslaw, with Jon Pertwee as umpire. This is in connection with the Maidenhead River Festival, for charity. What the result will be we dread to think, even if it turns out to be cricket.

The Saturday after this we play the School once more at cricket, the match again being attended by a fete and a dance in the evening.

And so another year passes. It has been enjoyed by all those who are Old Paludians, and they will be only too pleased to be joined by others who are entitled to, but as yet do not join in our many activities. All are welcome and the telephone number is Maidenhead 1745.

A. MABBOTT, *Hon. Assistant Secretary.*

Old Paludians Cricket Club

This was quite a successful season. Of the 36 games played, 18 resulted in wins, 12 were lost, 4 drawn and 2 were tied.

Among regular schoolboys playing for the Pals were Jimmy Barker, who put in some very good performances especially while acting as wicket keeper. David Windle played some very useful innings and Chris O'Donoghue bowling medium pace took some valuable wickets.

Among the batsmen Jim Osborne again came to the fore. Over the season he totalled 486 runs. 115 of these he made undefeated against the School, much to the discomfort of those School bowlers who were seeking to better their averages in this game. Closely following were Dennis Edwards and Graham Holmes 439 and 301 respectively. The player to take most catches was Kenny Hall; he took twenty, the majority being taken when he acted as wicket keeper.

Top of the bowling averages was Ron Bruce who took 64 wickets. Runners-up were Edwards 67 wickets, Holmes 53 wickets, Osborne 43 wickets and skipper 'Flip' Seal 31 wickets. He might have taken more had he been more ready to put himself on during the course of the season.

Speaking for the Old Pals generally I would mention, that if any boy would like to play for the Old Paludians on weekends while still at school or after leaving school, we should be only too pleased to see him. If you are at school please contact Jimmy Barker. If you are leaving this year and decide that after you have left you miss the company of Grammar School boys, please contact me.

Best of luck to all readers.

D. EDWARDS, *Hon. Match Secretary.*

Old Paludians Hockey Club

The Old Pals Hockey Club had another enjoyable season, during which matches were played on our own ground at Taplow for the first time.

Our results for the season were rather disappointing, due to a number of alterations in the teams.

Club record for season:-

P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals	
				F.	A.
59	21	6	32	122	134

During the season a number of our younger players gained first team experience for the first time, performing very well against strong opposition. The 3rd XI again consisted in the main of schoolboys and, captained by Eugene Hamblett, had a very successful season.

We were again represented in County hockey by Tony Stevenson and Ken MacLaughlan, both of whom played regularly for the 1st team.

The Club still has need of more playing members, and any schoolboys interested should contact Brian Deuchar or David Thomas. Coaching and training sessions will be re-organised during the late summer at which all players will be welcome.

G. E. G. HOLMES, *Hon. Secretary.*

Old Paludians Football Club

During the season 1958-59, although the trophies attained were fewer, the all-round playing standard vastly improved. The 1st XI failed to gain promotion, finishing second in Division I South of the Old Boys' League. Mention should also be made of their efforts in the various cup competitions. They lost 2-1 in the semi-final of the London Old Boys' Cup, and reached the divisional quarter-finals of the Berks and Bucks Intermediate Cup. This young side has gained vast experience which will hold it in good stead for future seasons.

It is always difficult to sum up the performance of the 2nd XI and the attempts to mould a settled team from the mixture of old and new members was not always satisfactory. A more settled policy may prove to advantage in choosing this side next season in order to obtain ready made replacements for the 1st XI.

The 3rd XI completed a season of friendly fixtures and it is hoped that this side will compete in Division IV (West) of the Old Boys' League next season.

The efforts of the Youth XI were very gratifying. The retaining of the Slough, Windsor and District League Shield and the winning of the High Wycombe Cup were great achievements, and the club looks forward to greater honours from this talented side next season.

Once again the club is indebted to Mr. Gibbs for his training sessions, and to the School for the use of its facilities.

E. C. COE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Old Paludians Motoring Club

The inaugural meeting of the Old Paludians' Motoring Club was held on the 24th April, 1959, following the creditable performance put up by our members who were invited to the W.B.M.C. "Four Counties" Rally.

The evening Treasure Hunt on May 20th was a success, although darkness and attempts to obtain the impression of a cat's paw on a piece of paper delayed the prize giving.

Looking to the future, there will be an evening rally on June 17th and an afternoon rally on July 5th. These events will be followed by a trip to Beaulieu Abbey and the Montagu Motor Museum sometime in September.

The winter events will be supplemented by "table-top" rallies. All Old Boys should join our club and membership is open to Rolls Royce or moped owners alike!

V. L. WARDALL, *Chairman.*